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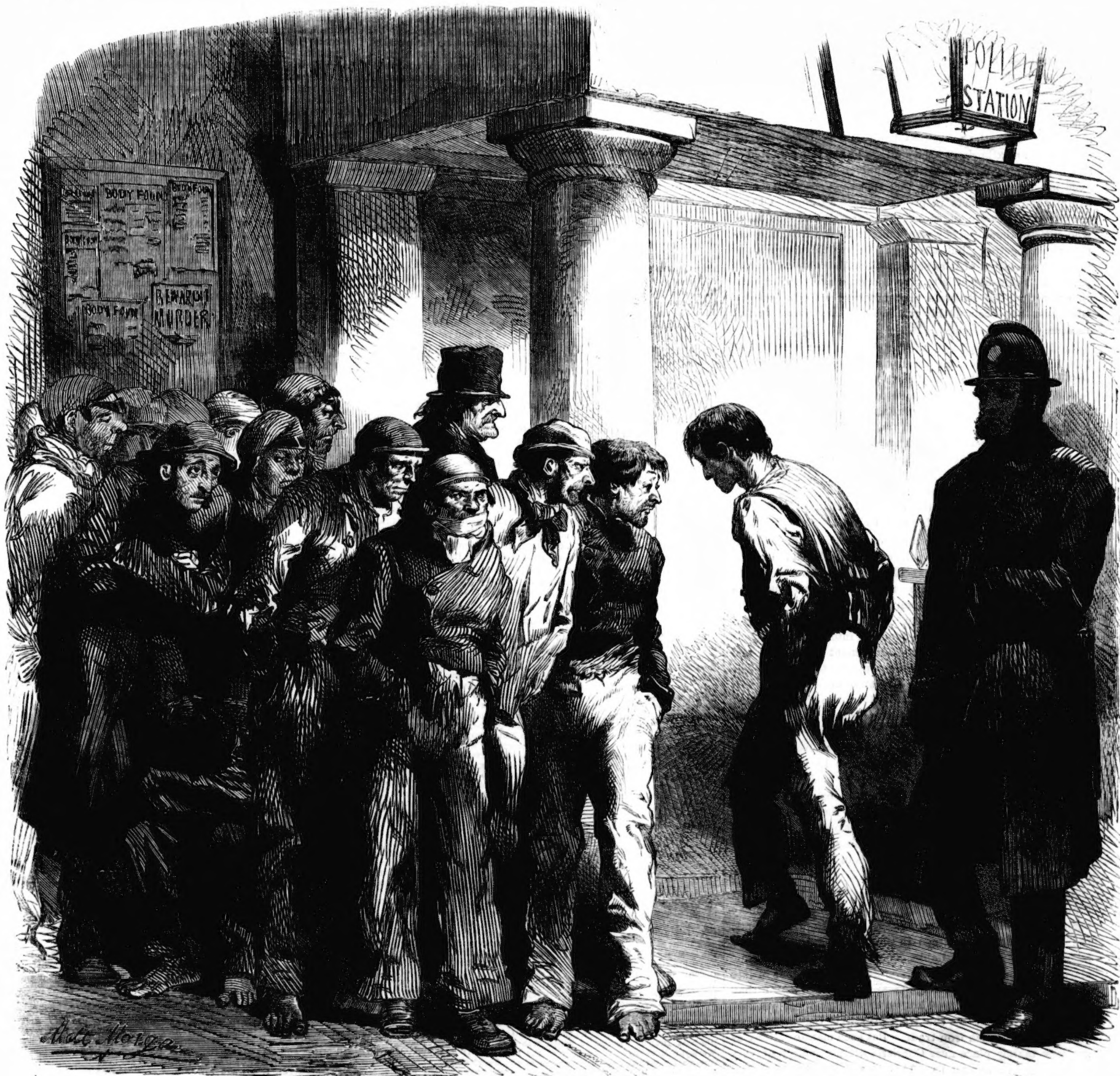
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## THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

WE forget how many times an extension of the suffrage has been recommended in Parliament, with all the authority that can be given to such a recommendation by a special mention of the subject in the Royal Speech. But Mr. Bright has, more than once, upbraided the representatives of the nation with want of loyalty, as shown in the fact that a matter specially confided to their care by the Queen has hitherto met with so little useful attention at their hands. This charge can now, fortunately, be brought against the Con-

servatives—as it has hitherto been brought against the Liberals—if Lord Derby's Government should, contrary to all reasonable expectations, fail to bring in a reform bill. Although everyone's mind is well made up as to the necessity of introducing some measure for the extension of the suffrage, it would be idle to pretend that there is in all classes of society any great enthusiasm on the subject. If such were the case, we might be sure that no reform bill would be proposed by the Conservatives. The fact is, people care neither more nor less about a reform bill, for its own sake, now than they did eight or

ten years ago. The number of bills for the extension of the suffrage, brought in either by Liberals or by Conservatives, is becoming difficult to count; but, between them, they have at least succeeded in making the reform question a stumbling-block in the way of useful practical Legislation. The causes which render the Parliament of 1867 less efficient as a legislative body than the Parliament of 1833 are not at all clear; nor does anyone aim at remedying an evil which cannot be proved to exist. It is not because the House of Commons, as now constituted, is thought to be incapable of the functions



DISTRESS IN LONDON: APPLICANTS FOR RELIEF OBTAINING TICKETS AT A POLICE-STATION.



naturally belonging to it, that a better House of Commons is to be formed; but because the Government of England is called a representative Government, and that that branch of the Legislature to which the representative character specially attaches, is not representative in the fullest possible sense. It is evident that between men, on the one hand, who argue (like Mr. Lowe) that Parliament does its work well enough, and that there is no reason for supposing that any change in its constitution will enable it to do it better, and those who maintain (like Mr. Bright) that its constitution is in itself defective, no agreement is possible. The adversaries cannot even come to an understanding as to the grounds of difference between them. What we all understand, however, at the pass at which things have now arrived, is that, whether Parliament is to be reformed on the practical plea that it is not equal to its work, or on the theoretical plea that it does not reflect in anything like a complete manner the opinions and feelings of the people, reformed it will be in either case. And whatever be the immediate result of an extension of the suffrage, its general significance must be a victory of Liberals over Conservatives. The difference between the Conservative Reform Bill of 1859 and the Liberal Reform Bill of last Session really amounted to this: that, whereas the former would have introduced a certain number of voters, among whom there would have been a respectable minority of Conservatives, the latter would have increased the electoral body by a mass which would have included scarcely any Conservatives at all. A Reform Bill may increase the power of the Liberals to a small or to a great extent; but it cannot fail to increase it, and Lord Derby is now preparing to do the work of the Whigs quite as much as Lord Palmerston, when he was in office, was said to do the work of the Tories.

It will be mortifying, no doubt, to some of our professional Reformers, at whose head Earl Russell must be placed, to find their business taken out of their hands by their political opponents; but, inconsistent as the present attitude of the Conservatives may be, no measure that they bring forward can be rejected on that ground alone. Each of their acts must be judged by itself, and not by its accordance or discordance with the principles habitually professed by its authors. If an extension of the suffrage be the thing wanted—and in public, at least, that is the universal cry—we surely need not be troubled by the fact that the Conservatives go against their own tenets in proposing such a thing. Of this the Conservatives are, of course, quite as well aware as those who criticise them. They would like to let the Reform question rest altogether; but, that being impossible, they wish to find such a solution of it as shall weaken their side as little as possible. Their object is to give a certain number of inches, in order that the Radicals may not take an ell; and Mr. Gladstone has declared his readiness, if anything like fair measure is offered, to accept it.

Lord Russell, in spite of the petulant manner in which, on Tuesday evening, he reproached the leaders of the present Government with the hostility they had shown in previous Sessions to his plans of reform, ended, like Mr. Gladstone, by promising to consider, on its merits, any bill that the Government might propose. He added that any "delusive attempt" to deal with the question would have the effect of fostering an agitation for manhood suffrage; and this remark is really worth the consideration of the members of the Cabinet. Lord Derby might as well propose no reform bill at all as propose one which will not have the effect of settling the Reform question for some considerable time to come.

On the whole, the programme of the Government looks satisfactory, though much will of course depend on the announcement expected next Monday in connection with the Reform Bill. All the really important questions of the day are touched upon in the Queen's Speech; and, in addition to Reform, we are promised legislation upon, or at least inquiry into, such subjects as the relations between landlord and tenant in Ireland, and the organisation of trades' unions throughout the empire. The Government also professes an earnest desire to arrive at a settlement of the Alabama claims. It means well, as far as we have been able to judge hitherto. But it will be impossible to form any opinion as to whether it will stand or fall until the Reform project is laid before the House. Earl Russell hints that, if the Government wish to be supported by his party, they must go further than he evidently expects them to go; while the Earl of Derby declares that any attempt at a satisfactory settlement of the question must be unsuccessful if approached in the temper and spirit of Earl Russell. Although, then, the passing of a reform bill may not be made a party question, signs of that very possible event have already been manifested.

As we are writing, the importance of one subject brought forward in the Royal Speech is likely to occur to many persons—we mean that of strikes. England is not, it appears, the only country in Europe in which the relations between labour and capital are liable from time to time to assume alarming forms. We have been told more than once of late that in Belgium they manage these things much better than in England; and it is well known that Belgium has profited to a certain extent by the frequent strikes that have taken place in the English iron trade. But such manifestations as are now taking place near Charleroi are fortunately of very rare occurrence among us. This does not make it the less necessary that the whole subject of strikes and lock-outs should be fully inquired into and reported upon.

## THE RELIEF OF THE CASUAL POOR.

NEXT to the question of Reform, the most anxious inquiry which occupies the public mind is that of the amelioration of the condition of the poor; and, though the allusion to this subject in the Royal Speech is too vague to be generally satisfactory, everybody is anxious to know whether the present Government will be strong enough to deal with boards and vestries, which have hitherto successfully defied the law and made even special Acts of Parliament of none effect in their treatment of the casual and sick paupers of whom they were the supposed "guardians for relief." According to our present system the pauper, and especially the casual pauper, seems to be regarded as the natural enemy of the parochial official; it is scarcely surprising that he should also be regarded as the natural enemy of the ratepayer of a poor district, where the holders of small tenements are themselves so little above the condition of pauperdom that even the increased poor rate may become a burden too heavy to be borne. It will be but piecemeal legislation at best, however, if the charges for the casual and sick poor only are redistributed. The time must come when the rate must be equalised in the metropolis at least; and there is no true reason why it should not be distributed throughout the country—a measure which, while it abolished the present law of settlement, would be no more than justice to the London people, on whom is laid the burden of supporting every provincial labourer who comes to the metropolis to find work, and, not succeeding, is necessarily a claimant for casual relief. These are the political and economical sides of the great question; but, until the law is altered and made equitable, there is another side which we dare not refuse to look at. Righteousness and mercy are above law, and we dare not refuse their claims. Nobody, perhaps, but a parish official, in whom "right has hardened into wrong," could trace the rapid series of circumstances which convert a labouring man and his family into paupers without feeling that it is impossible to wait for a more perfect administration before giving relief; and so the evil goes on, and every winter witnesses the breakdown of our poor laws, and consequent cruelty and obstinacy on the side of the "authorities" and supplementary almsgiving on the part of the public—whose almoners, by-the-by, are often able to effect a better organisation for dispensing relief than the officials who are supposed to be under the administration of a costly department of the State. Amidst all the suffering of the present winter, it is at least consolatory to know that the London public has opened its pursestrings wide, and that in some of the eastern districts where the distress was most terrible the parochial authorities, stimulated by external aid, have for the most part acted promptly and well. At Poplar and Limehouse the men who work in the stoneyard may earn, in money and provisions, equivalent to from twelve to eighteen shillings a week, according to the number of their families; but the work paid for at this rate will not realise its cost to the parishes, and the numbers of men and lads, women and children, who gather in hopeless destitution at the places where there is a chance of obtaining food or firing, cannot all find employment and cannot all be adequately relieved. It matters little that their wistful, hungry looks and dire suffering may be the result of this, that, or the other imprudence, or the effect of their ignorance of the laws of political economy. Trace the rapid career of one of these poor families from the position of humble but not discontented poverty, from the condition of a decent family—not very sufficiently housed and clad, perhaps, but still with a full meal on most days of the week, and with a roof over them, and a fire; and, by management, with enough money to pay the rent and to keep shoes on the children's feet—to that of fireless, starving, cowering wretches, pinched with hunger, and seeking to keep life and soul together on the three shillings a week earned by a boy or girl who happens to have a place unaffected by depressed trade. Watch the gradual disappearance of every scrap of furniture, till a fireless grate, a wretched bed, and a few coarse rags, a broken chair, and a rickety table are all that is left. Visit the lodging where even the landlord has ceased to call, knowing how impossible it is to get any rent, and knowing, too, that if he should turn these poor creatures into the street he will find no other tenant amidst the general misery of the district; and then it will be easy to see what our poor law has failed to do.

It is true that it has forbidden the spectacle—once so frequent—of wretched wayfarers crouching from the cold and rain beneath the shelter of a bare workhouse wall at midnight; of sick women holding dying and dead children in their arms, huddled in frozen stupor in doorways; of haggard girls and boys, prematurely old, crawling into the dim recesses of bridges or seeking the shelter of unfinished buildings. It has forbidden all these things, but has it succeeded in substituting for them immediate relief? Have all the London unions provided the mere warmth and shelter and scanty food which the "casual" may claim by law? We know that they have not; and that though the policeman has been appointed to the duty of extra relieving officer, the miserable tramps and wanderers who wait for the striking of the hour at which they may stifle hunger and escape from the streets into comparative light and warmth are often refused admission to the wards unless they can enforce their claim by the interference of a constable. The most experienced of these go at once to the district police station for their orders for the casual words; the most ignorant, and therefore frequently the most worthy, may wait or wander about till the magistrate is sitting, and then, if they have not died before the slowly-creeping dawn comes shuddering up from the river, on which they have gazed so desperately from one of the bridges, they may "complain to his Worship," and he may perhaps enforce the law twenty-four hours too late, and when the infirmity has to be opened instead of the casual ward.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BEAT INSTITUTION.—A meeting of this institution was held, on Thursday, at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Richard Lewis, Esq., the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, rewards, amounting to £337 were voted to the crews of various life-boats of the institution for putting off during the gales of the past month and saving the lives of 182 shipwrecked persons, in addition to bringing nine vessels safely into port. Rewards amounting to £257 were also granted to the crews of other life-boats of the institution for going out during the past month with the view of rendering assistance to distressed vessels and their crews. The silver medal of the institution and a copy of its vote on parchment were ordered to be presented to Lieutenant William N. Elton, R.N., chief officer of the coastguard at Lyme Regis, Dorset, and 45 to his boat's crew of five men, for putting off during a heavy gale from the S.W., and saving, at much risk of life, three men from two wrecks, on the 8th ult. The silver medal of the institution and a copy of its vote on parchment were also voted to Mr. T. M. Rees for saving, by being lowered down high cliffs, at great risk of life, during a very dark and stormy night, four men from the schooner Two Brothers, of Holyhead, which was wrecked on the Pembroke coast on the 8th ult. The silver medal and £2 were also voted to Mr. James Harrington for wading into the surf and saving, at considerable risk of life, four men belonging to the brig Charlotte, of Sunderland, which was wrecked on the East Scar, North Landing, Flamborough, on the 1st ult. Sundry other rewards were also granted for saving life from various shipwrecks on our coasts. A gratuity of £20 was also voted by the institution in aid of the subscription now being raised for the families of the six brave men who unfortunately perished on the occasion of the accident to the Calais life-boat on the 17th ult. It is hardly necessary to add that the boat was in no way connected with the National Life-boat Institution, nor was it built on its plan. It was stated that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales had fixed on Thursday the 28th inst., at two o'clock, on which to preside over the annual meeting of the institution, to be held, through the courtesy of the Lord Mayor, in the Egyptian Hall, Mansion House. New life-boats had been sent by the institution, during the past month, to Bonmaher, Barmouth, Portmadoc, Winclesea, and Courmasherry. In every case the railway and steam-packet companies had, as usual, conveyed the boats free of charge. Communications were read from the New South Wales Government and the Hanseatic Minister, asking the co-operation of the institution in superintending the construction of life-boats. The institution decided to form a life-boat station at Mullion, on the coast of Cornwall, and to place there the life-boat Draper, the cost of which was now being raised amongst the Wesleyan Methodists, in memory of the late Rev. D. J. Draper, who unfortunately perished on the occasion of the foundering of the steamship London in the Bay of Biscay. A report was read from Captain Ward, R.N., the inspector of life-boats to the institution, on his recent visit to various life-boat stations. Payments amounting to £2300 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments. The proceedings then terminated.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

The French Government are much perplexed with the army reorganisation plan, which is said to have formed the subject of discussion at a Cabinet Council on Monday afternoon. The two former schemes have been abandoned, and a third drawn up by the new Minister of War, Marshal Niel. The *France* announces that the new scheme essentially differs in many respects from that published some time back in the *Moniteur*. The new project would be more simple of application than the old one, the contingent placed at the disposal of the Government would be less considerable than was formerly proposed, and the reserves could be called out with greater promptitude.

### ITALY.

There seems to be considerable opposition to the Government measure for the liquidation of the property of the Church—the Liberal party holding that too favourable terms have been granted to the clergy; while the latter, it is said, oppose the bill for precisely opposite reasons. The first and second bureaux of the Chamber of Deputies have decided against the bill.

An official decree has been issued abolishing criminal process for political offences committed in the Italian kingdom, provided they be not accompanied by violation of martial law, offences against persons or property, or perpetrated by members of criminal associations.

### PRUSSIA.

The Upper House of the Prussian Legislature has rejected the bill which had been passed by the Chamber of Deputies for granting remuneration to the members of the North German Parliament.

The Chamber of Deputies has agreed to a bill for abolishing the salt monopoly and levying a tax of 2 thalers per cwt. on that article. The House at the same time demanded that the Government should gradually reduce the amount of the tax.

The war flag, commercial flag, and pilot flag of the North German Confederation have now been established. The war flag consists of the Prussian and Hanseatic colours, with the Prussian eagle in the centre.

### AUSTRIA.

There have been some Ministerial changes at Vienna. Count Belcredi has resigned, and has been succeeded by Baron Beust as President of the Council. It is said that the Baron will receive the title of Imperial Chancellor. His programme is based upon the principle that the assembling of an Extraordinary Diet would be inexpedient, because the German provinces have to a great extent abstained from taking part in the elections, and also because the understanding with Hungary has become an accomplished fact. The Emperor has therefore decided that the project for assembling an Extraordinary Diet shall be abandoned, and that the opening of the ordinary Diet shall be deferred until the 18th inst.

The municipality of Agram has refused to carry out the Imperial patent relative to the reorganisation of the army.

An Imperial decree has been issued suspending in Southern Tyrol the laws for the protection of personal liberty and inviolability of domicile. The reasons given for this measure are that recent disturbances appear to have endangered in the highest degree the public safety in that district.

### TURKEY.

The Turkish Government has refused to evacuate the citadel of Belgrade, but has consented to diminish the garrison and to evacuate the other Serbian fortresses. The offer of mediation by France and Austria has not as yet been accepted by the Porte.

### THE CANDIAN INSURRECTION.

The Paris journals publish intelligence from Constantinople, dated the 4th inst. Advice had been received in that city from Candia announcing that the Sphakiotes were prepared to oppose the landing of any fresh band of recruits which might arrive for the insurgents. A body of Sphakiotes one hundred strong had joined the Turkish troops to assist in the expulsion of foreigners from the island. The Administration was being reconstituted in all parts. A party of volunteers had escaped to Cerigo, others had been forcibly expelled, and the Turkish Commissioner receives every day demands for permission to quit the island. The same advice says the Cretan insurrection no longer exists; brigandage alone survives in some points of the island; and this cannot continue long. Server Effendi has arrived in Candia. He will cause an election to be held of the most noteworthy inhabitants, both Mussulman and Christian, who will proceed to Constantinople in order to concert with the Commission which has been appointed there the reorganisation of Crete.

### SWEDEN.

In Saturday's sitting of the Lower House, Deputy Hedling brought forward a motion proposing general liability to military service, the division of the country into ten military districts, and the distribution of the army into three classes, consisting of 125,000 men between twenty-two and twenty-five years of age, 120,000 reserves between the ages of twenty-six and thirty, and 300,000 landsturm between the ages of thirty-one and fifty.

### THE UNITED STATES.

Through the Atlantic cable we have intelligence from New York of as late a date as the 6th inst. The House of Representatives had passed a resolution against the further contraction of the currency during the present year.

It was understood that the Judiciary Committee would not report upon the impeachment of President Johnson until the close of the present Congressional Session.

It was reported that John Surratt would be summoned to give testimony in reference to Mr. Johnson's alleged complicity in the assassination of President Lincoln.

A recent decision of the Supreme Court of Alabama, declaring that the Government of that State was not destroyed by the rebellion, renders valid all contracts in Alabama under Legislative enactment during the rebellion.

Two more Fenian prisoners have been sentenced at Toronto to be hanged on March 8.

### MEXICO.

The advices received at New York from Mexico report various successes by Juarez, and assert that he holds such a position that, in the event of a successful fight with the Imperialists, he would be able to occupy the capital.

Republican accounts from Vera Cruz, via New Orleans, state that 18,000 Republicans were menacing the city of Mexico.

Official intelligence received in Paris from the city of Mexico, dated Dec. 29, states that the French troops were continuing their retrograde movement; and that, by the 20th of January, the whole expeditionary corps was to be écheloned between the city of Mexico and the seaboard.

### INDIA.

A sad accident has occurred on the Hooghly by the sinking of a steamer returning to Calcutta with passengers from Howrah. About twenty persons were drowned.

The Russians are reported to have taken Suzak, in Bokhara. The King of Bokhara has sent a second messenger to the Government of the Punjab asking assistance against the Russians.

The Sultan of Zanzibar has sent a mission to the Omali country to rescue from captivity the survivors of the wreck of the H. Abila. Feroze Shah, the only great rebel at Delhi who escaped punishment, has died at Bokhara.

INCOME-TAX STATISTICS.—The income-tax returns are very suggestive and instructive as to the general progress of the country in prosperity. From those contained in the tenth report of the Commissioners (just published), it appears that the increase of the value of lands, &c. (comparing 1854 with 1855), has been at the rate of 1.16 per cent per annum; houses, 3.50; gasworks, 11.45; and railways, 7.57. On the other hand, the improvement in profits of trades and professions in the same period has been at the rate of 4.38 per cent per annum. In Ireland the improvement in this respect was only at the rate of .93 per cent per annum.



## THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

ON Tuesday her Majesty the Queen opened the second Session of her seventh Parliament and the thirtieth of her now long and prosperous reign. The occasion was one calculated to excite a high degree of interest, for it not only came after a crisis the most important, perhaps, which has occurred since her Majesty's accession to the throne, as well in its popular bearings as its political indications, but also at a period when everything portends that the Session which it inaugurated will be more eventful even than the last. Though but few can be actual spectators of the ceremonial within the House, all feel an indefinable sense of participation in it if they can but catch a passing glance of the principal actors in the scene. Some such considerations alone could have induced the vast multitudes who flocked from all parts of London on Tuesday to face rain and mud in order to see the Royal pageant. A genial sunshine in the forenoon gave hopes that "Queen's weather" would lend its aid to the attraction of the coming spectacle; but shortly before twelve o'clock rain began to fall, and at half-past twelve the rain came down in torrents. Both sides of Parliament-street, however, were densely packed; the windows of the houses, even those from which but an indifferent view could be obtained, were filled, and every site which was suitable, and many which were not, were made more or less available for the erection of temporary stands and balconies. A battalion of the Grenadier Guards, headed by their band, was posted near the entrance to the Lords', and the Coldstreams opposite Palace-yard. Her Majesty occupied what is termed a "dress carriage," with eight cream-coloured horses. Though the downpour of rain necessitated the closing of the windows of her carriage, so that few could catch a glimpse of the Queen, hats and handkerchiefs were tumultuously waved as her Majesty passed along, and loud and enthusiastic cheers rose from the voices of tens of thousands.

The doors of the House of Lords were not opened till twelve o'clock, but long before that time a considerable number of ladies had collected, and the dim magnificence of the long corridors and chambers was enlivened by the presence of exquisite toilets in all the richest amplitudes of the latest fashion. In a few minutes after the hour had struck, a considerable space of the Government benches was occupied, and from that time till after one o'clock the arrivals were incessant. The Opposition benches filled more slowly, for on these occasions this part of the Chamber is reserved for peeresses only, and the majority of these did not arrive till shortly before the great ceremony of the day began. No alteration was made in the interior of the House beyond those temporary lines of demarcation always used at Royal openings. The railings in front of the throne had been removed, and the throne itself—that stiff, hard-backed, angular, and strictly Gothic chair, the only uncomfortable seat in the House of Peers—was on this occasion made to look more habitable from its being almost entirely hidden by the Queen's robe of state. The gallery on the right of the throne devoted to ladies connected with the various diplomatic bodies was soon filled, and also that on the left of the Chamber. At the upper end of this, near the throne, sat a group of Indian Princes, the extraordinary magnificence of whose dresses and jewels made them for a long time the prominent features of attraction to the ladies present. Early after the opening, Prince Teck, wearing the handsome uniform of blue and silver of the Austrian hussars, entered the House, and was conducted by Sir Edward Cust, Chief Master of the Ceremonies, to a seat just outside the body of the House, in which, as not being a peer, he of course could have no place. Lord Houghton was the first lay peer to present himself, and he was quickly followed by the Marquis of Winchester, the Earl of Westmoreland, the Bishops of Oxford, London, and Ely, and the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. None of their Lordships, however, had yet assumed their robes of state, but in plain morning costume moved about the House conversing with the peeresses and ladies of their acquaintance. Towards one o'clock the body of the House was almost filled with ladies. At about one o'clock the Bishops, in their robes of state (similar to those of her Majesty's Judges, but without the wig), began to take their places on the episcopal bench. There was, however, not room for them all, and several had to sit with the Judges in front of the woolsack. At the same time, also, many peers in their robes took their seats. Mr. Justices Bramwell, Lush, Shee, Chief Baron Kelly, Mr. Baron Channell, and Mr. Justice Byles came in almost together, and after them the Lord Chancellor and Lord Cranworth. The part allotted to the diplomatic body had meanwhile been gradually filling, and the crowd of splendid uniforms, covered with orders and decorations, which is always to be seen there on these occasions, made it one of the most brilliant parts of the whole Chamber. The Ambassadors of Turkey, France, Austria, Prussia, and Russia occupied the front seat, and behind these were the Ministers of Belgium, Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Bavaria, while the background was filled up with Ministers from minor States and a crowd of secretaries and Attachés.

The first peers to represent the Opposition were Lords Granville, Clarendon, and Sydney. After them came Lord Roden, Lord Dufferin, Lord Darnley, Lord Albemarle, the Duke of Sutherland, Lord Churston, the Duke of Buckingham, Lord Lytton, Lord Shrewsbury and Talbot, and the Marquis of Westmeath. The Marquis of Winchester, the Duke of Beaufort, Lord Colville, and many peers who are very seldom seen in the House save on these occasions were also present, and by half-past one the House was nearly full. At this time Lord Derby entered. There was a momentary hush as a brilliant group appeared at the door, and their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, and the Duke of Cambridge, attended by their equerries, entered. Both the Princes wore ordinary robes as dukes over their uniforms, and the Prince took his own seat—the first on the Opposition benches on the left next the throne, with the Duke of Edinburgh below, and the Duke of Cambridge next to him again. After these came Lord Chief Justice Bovill, with Mr. Justices Smith and Keating.

It was expected that the new peers entitled to sit in the House would have taken the oaths and their seats before the arrival of her Majesty. Nine peers can now claim this honour, eight by right of succession—viz., the Earl of Craven, the Marquis of Exeter, the Earl of Kingston, Lord Northbrook, Lord Plunket, and the Marquis of Waterford; one new peer by majority, the Earl of Eldon, just come of age; one by creation, Lord Brancepeth (better known as Viscount Boyle); and one by election, Viscount Templemore, in the room of the late Lord Lanesborough. These noblemen, however, did not take their seats at the morning sitting on Tuesday.

At ten minutes past two the doors on the right of the throne, by which the Queen enters, were thrown open, and the whole of the illustrious assemblage in the chamber rose with a great rustle, which was instantly succeeded by an intense silence as every eye was fixed upon the door. Formerly, when the Queen used to open Parliament with the Prince Consort, her arrival was always proclaimed beforehand by brilliant flourishes of trumpets. Yesterday, however, as last year, the splendid procession entered amid a solemn silence that was almost funereal. First came the heralds, bowing stiffly in their tabards as they passed the throne; then the chief officers of the household, followed by Lord Derby carrying the sword of state and accompanied by Lord Malmesbury. After these noblemen came her Majesty, accompanied by Princesses Helena and Louisa, and Prince Arthur, and followed by the Duchess of Wellington, who stood behind the throne. The Queen as she sat on the throne had the Princesses, with Lord Derby and Lord Malmesbury, on her left. On her right were the Lord Chancellor with the Speech, the Duke of Buckingham; the Marquis of Winchester, with the Cap of Maintenance; and the Duke of Richmond, bearing the Imperial Crown; while officers of the household, the Chamberlain's department, and the House of Lords closed in the background.

When the Queen had taken her place on the throne, the Lord Chancellor, by her command, requested their Lordships to be seated, and the Deputy Usher of the Black Rod was dispatched to summon the "faithful Commons." During the interval which always elapses before the knights and burgesses present themselves in almost tumultuous array below the bar, the most intense silence prevailed in the House of Peers, and every look was directed to the august occupant of the throne and those who stood around it. They might

have been statues, so motionless were all. The Queen never stirred or looked to right or left. Her dress was a plain black silk, with the ribbon and star of the Garter. On her head was a Mary Stuart cap, surmounted by a demi-crown of brilliants, from the back of which depended a long white veil, and she wore the Koh-i-noor in a necklace. Princess Helena wore a train of white satin, and Princess Louisa wore a shorter and more childlike dress of the same material. Both stood beside her Majesty, on the left of the throne, and were as motionless as the Queen herself. Prince Arthur wore the very plain uniform of a cadet of the Royal Military Academy.

The "faithful Commons" came to the bar in a more orderly way than last year, though still not without an amount of noise and an amount of hat-crushing among the first rows which provoked an almost general smile in the Chamber of Peers.

When complete silence was restored, the Lord Chancellor, bowing to the Queen, opened the Speech, and, in an admirably clear voice, read the document, as follows:—

## MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

In again recurring to your advice and assistance, I am happy to inform you that my relations with Foreign Powers are on a friendly and satisfactory footing.

I hope that the termination of the war in which Prussia, Austria, and Italy have been engaged may lead to the establishment of a durable peace in Europe.

I have suggested to the Government of the United States a mode by which questions pending between the two countries, arising out of the civil war, may receive an amicable solution, and which, if met, as I trust it will be, in a corresponding spirit, will remove all grounds of possible misunderstanding, and promote relations of cordial friendship.

The war between Spain and the Republics of Chili and Peru still continues, the good offices of my Government, in conjunction with that of the Emperor of the French, having failed to effect a reconciliation. If, either by agreement between the parties themselves or by the mediation of any friendly power, peace shall be restored, the object which I have had in view will be equally attained.

Discontent prevailing in some provinces of the Turkish empire has broken out in actual insurrection in Crete. In common with my allies, the Emperor of the French and the Emperor of Russia, I have abstained from any active interference in these internal disturbances, but our joint efforts have been directed to bringing about improved relations between the Porte and his Christian subjects, not inconsistent with the sovereign rights of the Sultan.

The protracted negotiations which arose out of the acceptance by Prince Charles of Hohenzollern of the government of the Danubian Principalities have been happily terminated by an arrangement to which the Porte has given its ready adhesion, and which has been sanctioned by the concurrence of all the Powers signatories of the Treaty of 1856.

Resolutions in favour of a more intimate union of the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick have been passed by their several Legislatures; and delegates duly authorised, and representing all classes of colonial party and opinion, have concurred in the conditions upon which such a union may be best effected. In accordance with their wishes a bill will be submitted to you which, by the consolidation of colonial interests and resources, will give strength to the several provinces as members of the same empire, and animated by feelings of loyalty to the same Sovereign.

I have heard with deep sorrow that the calamity of famine has pressed heavily on my subjects in some parts of India. Instructions were issued to my Government in that country to make the utmost exertions to mitigate the distress which prevailed during the autumn of last year. The blessing of an abundant harvest has since that time materially improved the condition of the suffering districts.

The persevering efforts and unscrupulous assertions of treasonable conspirators abroad have, during the last autumn, excited the hopes of some disaffected persons in Ireland, and the apprehensions of the loyal population; but the firm yet temperate exercise of the powers entrusted to the Executive and the hostility manifested against the conspiracy by men of all classes and creeds have greatly tended to restore public confidence and have rendered hopeless any attempt to disturb the general tranquillity. I trust that you may consequently be enabled to dispense with the continuance of any exceptional legislation for that part of my dominions.

I acknowledge, with deep thankfulness to Almighty God, the great decrease which has taken place in the cholera and in the pestilence which has attacked our cattle; but the continued prevalence of the latter in some foreign countries and its occasional reappearance in this will still render necessary some special measures of precaution; and I trust that the visitation of the former will lead to increased attention to those sanitary measures which experience has shown to be the best preventive.

Estimating as of the highest importance an adequate supply of pure and wholesome water, I have directed the issue of a Commission to inquire into the best means of permanently securing such a supply for the metropolis and for the principal towns in densely-peopled districts of the kingdom.

## GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

I have directed the Estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you. They have been prepared with a due regard to economy and to the requirements of the public service.

You will, I am assured, give your ready assent to a moderate expenditure calculated to improve the condition of my soldiers and to lay the foundation of an efficient army of reserve.

## MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

Your attention will again be called to the state of the representation of the people in Parliament; and I trust that your deliberations, conducted in a spirit of moderation and mutual forbearance, may lead to the adoption of measures which, without unduly disturbing the balance of political power, shall freely extend the elective franchise.

The frequent occurrence of disagreements between employers of labour and their workmen, causing much private suffering and public loss, and occasionally leading, as is alleged, to acts of outrage and violence, has induced me to issue a Commission to inquire into and report upon the organisations of trades' unions, and other associations, whether of workmen or employers, with power to suggest any improvement of the law for their mutual benefit. Application will be made to you for Parliamentary powers which will be necessary to make this inquiry effective.

I have directed bills to be laid before you for the extension of the beneficial provisions of the Factory Acts to other trades specially reported on by the Royal Commission on the Employment of Children; and for the better regulation, according to the principles of those Acts, of workshops where women and children are largely employed.

The condition of the mercantile marine has attracted my serious attention. Complaints are made that the supply of seamen is deficient; and the provisions for their health and discipline on board ship are imperfect. Measures will be submitted to you with a view to increase the efficiency of this important service.

I have observed with satisfaction the relaxations recently introduced into the Navigation Laws of France. I have expressed to the Emperor of the French my readiness to submit to Parliament a proposal for the extinction, on equitable terms, of the exemptions from local charges on shipping, which are still enjoyed by a limited number of individuals in British ports; and his Imperial Majesty has, in anticipation of this step, already admitted British ships to the advantage of the new law. A bill upon this subject will forthwith be laid before you.

A bill will also be submitted to you for making better provision for the arrangement of the affairs of railway companies which are unable to meet their engagements.

Measures will be submitted to you for improving the management of sick and other poor in the metropolis, and for a redistribution of some of the charges for relief therein.

Your attention will also be called to the amendment of the law of bankruptcy; to the consolidation of the Courts of Probate and Divorce and Admiralty; and to the means of disposing, with greater dispatch and frequency, of the increasing business in the superior courts of common law and at the assizes.

The relations between landlord and tenant in Ireland have engaged my anxious attention, and a bill will be laid before you which, without interfering with the rights of property, will offer direct encouragement to occupiers of land to improve their holdings, and provide a simple mode of obtaining compensation for permanent improvement.

I commend to your careful consideration these and other measures which will be brought before you; and I pray that your labours may, under the blessing of Providence, conduce to the prosperity of the country and the happiness of my people.

## THE LONDON WORKHOUSE INFIRMARIES.

THE medical officers of the London workhouses have had a number of questions submitted to them in a circular from the Poor-Law Board, with respect to the condition of the infirmaries, and their answers given in a Parliamentary paper, which, it is expected, will attract some attention in the Legislature, show the shortcomings of the rate-supported and guardian-governed places a very little time since. Mr. Simmonds, the medical officer of St. Mary's, Newington, states that accommodation should be made for 250 patients, epidemics not existing; that the existing accommodation would properly admit 135, including insane, itch, and another class of disease, and that on a specified day there were 233 cases in the wards. He had no exact experience as to cubical space; but he could say, "At night our wards stink overpoweringly." As to defects in accommodation and general arrangement in the different wards, he says, the space was insufficient, and ventilation ill-regulated (down draught producing ophthalmia and discomfort); the air was often very impure; some bedsteads were short, and better beds were needed. Arm-chairs ought to be provided, and the close-stools should have arms to prevent the feeble from tumbling off. The patients needed hair-brushes, pocket-handkerchiefs, and waste paper. Medical appliances wanted in the infirmary were baths and hot water, pulleys and bed-rests, padded rooms, quarantine rooms, special rooms for fever and smallpox; trained nurses and night nurses were also wanted. The nursing and attention to the sick he described as "not good," and he states that recovery from illness was retarded by "unwashed skins, impure air, and queer nurses." He had had faults to find because his orders for extra diets, stimulants, &c., had not been attended to, but this was "being mended." The remedies he proposed for the evils he knew to exist are very suggestive, and point to a shocking condition of things. They were, "The active consideration of the defects; the airing-courts should not be used by the washers; there should be flowers and shrubs instead of the pavement; better nurses; and a dormitory for them; a separate ward for sick children; a master and matron of a respectable class; a quarterly inspection by the Poor-Law Board's officers; allow the sick to be seen often." As to his salary, he says he has £105 yearly, and his other emoluments consist of £3 or £10 yearly "for going before the magistrate and swearing concerning the paupers." His duties compelled him to go daily into every room occupied, and see about 200 in summer and 250 in winter, for twenty-five to thirty of whom he had to prescribe medicine daily. He was always at the call of the workhouse officials, and when he was out a substitute had to attend, at his cost. He thought a proper salary for his duties would be £210 per annum, with "emolument to be given for reports furnished to the Poor-Law Board, and, in order that we should furnish good answers, we should be apprised of the nature of the report required a suitable time antecedent." The deficiencies of Bermondsey Workhouse Infirmary were described by Mr. Coohalan, the medical officer. The space was insufficient in all the day and night wards, and he believed recovery from illness was retarded in diseases of the lungs through deficiency of space and consequent overcrowding and irregularity of ventilation arising from the efforts made to compensate for deficiency of space. His salary was £80 a year, with emoluments of about £30, out of which he had to provide drugs to the cost of £25, and an assistant. With respect to the nursing he said, "Now that the guardians have resolved to appoint paid nurses, this defect [not stated] is remedied." He considered there was room only for fifty-one sick, while provision should be made for ninety-four. The cubical space he recommended was 1000 ft., and 80 or 90 superficial feet for floor space for each patient. He exercised daily a general surveillance over one hundred sick persons, and gave special attention to about forty. He thought his salary should be increased to £150, his emoluments remaining the same, and the guardians should find the drugs. Bethnal-green infirmary was described by Mr. Smart, the medical officer, as having accommodation for 318 sick, while accommodation was needed for 600. The beds were too close and crowded, and the supply of nurses was not sufficient to ensure the medicine being given and the medical appliances being regularly carried out. Recovery from illness, he said, was retarded by the overcrowded state of the wards; more space, better ventilation, and increased supervision, both by medical help and by nurses, were needed. His salary was £160 per annum, without other emolument, and he had to employ and pay both assistant and dispenser. He considered that the guardians should appoint a resident medical assistant, and that his own salary should be raised to £200 or £250 per annum. Of Clerkenwell workhouse infirmary, which is considered by the authorities very defective, a few of the defects, and not by any means the worst, are given in the answers of Mr. H. J. Brown, the medical officer. He states that by the existing accommodation from 100 to 125 should be properly admitted, but that room should be provided for 250. The space, ventilation, light, and air, nursing and attention to the sick are all marked as "deficient," the bedding (flock beds) and furniture described as "tolerable," but he wished mattresses to be provided. Recovery from illness was retarded in the house, but the causes were not specified. The remedies suggested were "day rooms for the insane and other patients able to leave their beds, increased space in the wards, exercising-grounds, paid nurses to each sick-ward (not paupers) both for day and night, improved system of ventilation, and waterclosets," while other wants are summed up in " &c." His duties compelled him to attend to the house twice a day, and he was called at all hours when necessary, and he saw, prescribed for, and dispensed for all the patients on the sick-book morning and evening. His salary was £130 per annum, and his emoluments about £15 per annum, the guardians finding only quinine and cod-liver oil. The drugs cost him about £30 a year, and an assistant £80. He considered that all the drugs should be found by the guardians, that a qualified assistant should be paid by the guardians, that he should have £150 per annum, with extras, as the district surgeon. These illustrations of workhouse infirmary management are taken haphazard from the official papers.

HANDEL'S favourite cantata, "Acis and Galatea," and Locke's "Mæbeth" music, will be performed by the National Choral Society at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Lucy Franklin, Mr. Leigh Wilson, Mr. Kerr Gedge, and Mr. Weiss are the artists engaged. The band and chorus will number nearly 700 performers. Conductor, Mr. G. W. Martin.

## NEW DOCKS AT MILLWALL.

A CURIOUS illustration of the gigantic spread of London and its suburbs is exemplified in the now very modern history of the Isle of Dogs. The dreariest and most marshy of all the islands of the Thames has within the last few years sprung into a seat of industry, and become the focus of the shipbuilding trade. As recently as half a century ago not a single inhabitant dwelt upon it; at the present day it is covered with little villages, occupied by thousands of artisans, and the ships turned out from its building-yards and wharves, &c., compete successfully with those of the Tyne and the Clyde. So much has its importance increased that recent histories of London all seek for and all differ as to the origin of its name—the Isle of Ducks, from the sea-fowl which used to make it their resort, and the Isle of Dogs, from the staghounds which were kept there when the early kings made Greenwich their hunting seat, being equally claimed as authorities for the name. The Isle of Dogs, however, is more likely than any to be its modern appellation, for on this waste marsh some of the finest docks in the world are now in course of construction, and by the end of autumn next will be finished and open to the shipping of the Thames. For the formation of docks, this island offers peculiar advantages. Its frontage faces Greenwich, and its rear almost looks upon Deptford. To make docks here seemed easy enough, for the great difficulty has hitherto been to keep the water off the soil, not to bring it on. Yet these very apparent facilities have, in fact, been causes of serious delay in the works; for the soil was soft and peaty, with now and then layers of clay and piles of snail-shells; and beneath all, in spots, were found the patches of a subterranean forest, nearly all the gnarled and rotten trunks in which were those of fir and oak, bedded in immense masses of decayed vegetable matter. In such a soil it was a work of no ordinary difficulty at the same time to make enormous excavations and keep the water down and out while labour was going forward. This, however, by the continuous employment of 8000 men, has been successfully accomplished, and the outline of the great docks, with all their facilities for wharfing and warehousing, can now be discerned; and it is not too much to say that in all modern improvements, and in all the conveniences required for the enormous tonnages of modern ships, these works will be, of their kind, unequalled in London. On Saturday a long inspection of the whole plan was made by a large party of gentlemen and shareholders. Every portion of the huge exca-

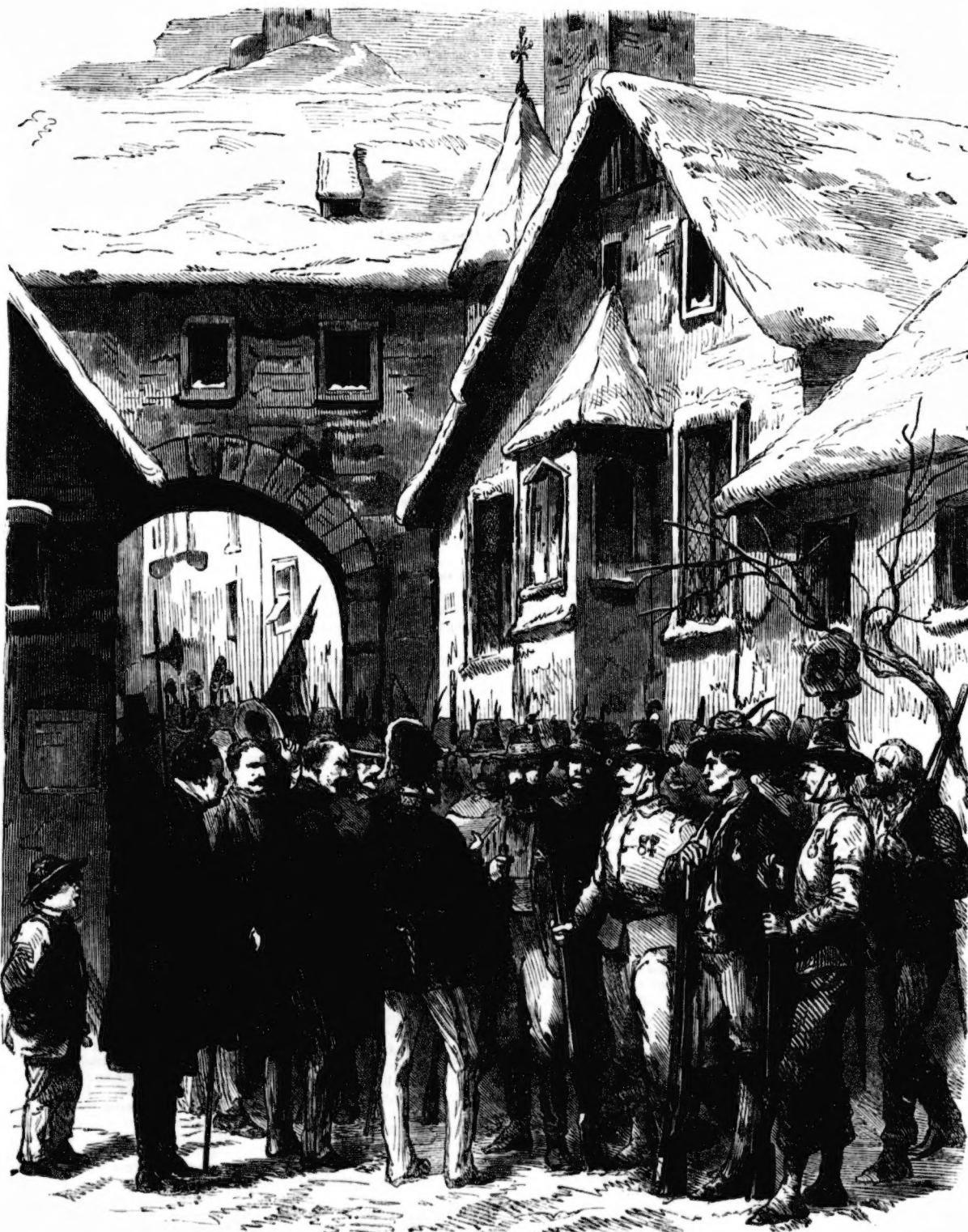


ventions was gone over, the sites for the warehouses examined, and the proposed route by which it is hereafter intended to connect the whole of this series of water-basins with the West India Docks pointed out and explained to the visitors. What has already been done in this waste marsh may be briefly explained as follows:—

The freehold property purchased by the company comprises an area of 200 acres, having a circumference of about two miles and a half. Thirty-five acres and a half have been excavated for the purposes of a floating dock, having two basins, one of 25 acres in extent, the remaining 10½ being occupied by the other. The depth of water in each will be about 28 ft. or 29 ft.; so that the largest ships afloat, such as the Northumberland and the Royal Sovereign, can be accommodated. The Great Eastern herself could be floated in the dock were it not that her immense width with her paddles would not permit her to pass the entrance locks, which will be 80 ft. wide. The land on which the works are being carried on is, as we have said, so situated that the docks will have two entrances, of which, however, it is contemplated at present to open only one—that on the Millwall side of the property. The circumstances under which the present undertaking is being carried out are unusually favourable. The land, with charges, cost only about £1000 an acre—a very low price when it is taken into consideration that the river entrance to the proposed docks is only 3½ miles below London Bridge, and by land the distance is 4½ miles from the Royal Exchange. All the materials excavated have been available for making embankments and a roadway which is being constructed to compensate the public for the loss of one of the ferry roads, which will in a short time form part of the company's estate. In many other cases where similar works have been promoted, the contractors have been obliged to remove everything that has been dug out, but in this instance every foot of excavation has, in fact, added 2 ft. to the depth of the projected dock, for the sand and mud dug out have been thrown up on the embankment, so that in some places the surface has been raised as much as 10½ ft. As a most valuable and important adjunct to the other works, a large graving dock is being constructed on a plan which will add greatly to the facilities we now possess on the river for examining and repairing ships, and will also provide most carefully for the safety of the vessels lying in its basin. A number of recesses have been built for the reception of what are called "bilge carriages," which, with the "altars," nine in number, which rise above them at either side, will supersede to a great extent the old system of propping, which was at once inconvenient and comparatively insecure. The bilge carriages can be run out and so placed under the ship that the keel will be kept off the ground, and there is also the advantage that the vessel can be properly caulked, and at the same time prevented from straining. The graving dock is 420 ft. by 86 ft., and will have an entrance 65 ft. wide. All the work, both in this and the other basin, is solid and massive. The docks will have a frontage of 7700 ft., which is to be occupied as wharves or sites for warehouses and manufacturing, while the other parts of the land will be hereafter made available for dwelling houses. The portion that has been quayed has been formed to a level of 4 ft. above high-water mark. All the gates, bridges, warping capstans, and other machinery are intended to be worked by hydraulic power, so that vessels may enter and leave the docks with the smallest possible amount of delay. The dock company also intend to supply, on economical terms, hydraulic power to the users of the wharves, either for working cranes, hoists, or, in fact, warehouse machinery of any kind. The contract, according to its terms, ought to be completed on Sept. 1; and considering the present progress of the construction and the favourable season which is now approaching, there is little doubt that the docks will be finished in the specified time.



THE SMALLEST ELEPHANT EVER BROUGHT TO ENGLAND.



DISTRIBUTION OF MEDALS TO TYROLEAN CHASSEURS.

#### THE SMALLEST ELEPHANT.

ONE of the smallest elephants ever imported into England arrived at Liverpool, on Sunday week, in the ship *Frigate-Bird*, from Rangoon. The animal is only 3 ft. high and very docile, and, on its way up from the ship to the house of the naturalist who imported it, went into a public-house, and inserting the end of its trunk into a jug of beer that was on the bar counter, sucked up the contents, much to the surprise of those present. This Tom Thumb of pachyderma has been purchased, we understand, by Mr. Edwards (late Wombwell), the proprietor of the Royal Windsor Castle Menagerie; and consequently the public will probably soon have an opportunity of inspecting the animal.

#### PRESENTATION OF MEDALS TO THE TYROLEAN CHASSEURS.

THE Austrian Government, now that the force of recent disasters has been a little mitigated, is able to turn its attention to the few who were found faithful to its cause in time of trouble; and the sort of recognition which even unsuccessful monarchs can bestow upon their troops, has at last reached the miserable outlying town of Chiusa, in the Austrian Tyrol, on the right bank of the Eisach, a place, however crossed by the grand route from Italy by way of Brenner. Our Engraving is taken from a sketch made at this place on the occasion when the Prefect (having received orders to that effect from the Emperor) presented to the Tyrolean riflemen medals for military valour, in commemoration of the courage with which they defended their territory during the war of 1866. These rewards were received with the greatest satisfaction, and, after the ceremony, the volunteer riflemen returned to their villages on the little sledges on which they travel during the winter when the snow is on the ground.

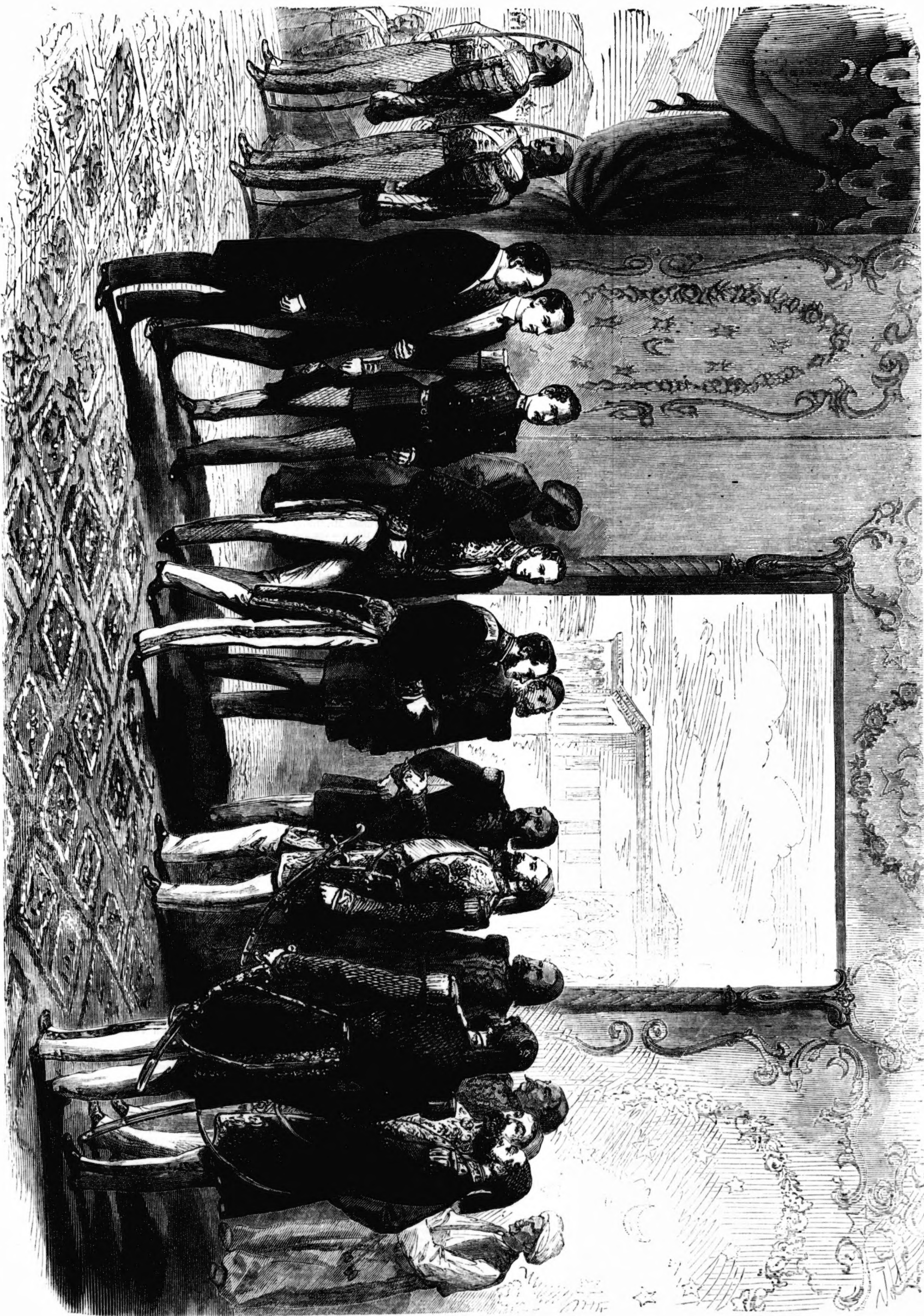
#### INTERNATIONAL COURTESIES IN EGYPT.

A week or two ago we published an Engraving of the ceremony which celebrated the meeting of the Egyptian Parliament by a grand review in the plain before the Viceroy's palace at Abassieh, and our present illustration represents a reception which has just taken place in the great hall of that vast but ugly building where his Highness holds his state.

The King of Holland delegates his powers to a governor-general for the administration of Java and the other Indian Islands in his possession, and the governorship is periodically conferred on statesmen who have become distinguished for political service, and are therefore competent to undertake the control of a half European population, numbering some 25,000,000. It is as a reward for eminent services that M. Myers has been appointed to this responsible position. He has resided many years in Java, and has also exercised high Ministerial functions in Holland. His Majesty had charged M. Myers to present the Viceroy of Egypt on his behalf with the grand cordon of the Order of the Lion, the highest civil decoration which he could bestow; and which was offered to Ismail Pacha as a recognition of the protection which he has extended to the Dutch colony in Egypt. The Viceroy received the Envoy with all the honour due to his rank, in the presence of seven of the most important members of the Viceregal Court. The ceremony took place in the palace at Abassieh, when the Viceroy expressed his great satisfaction at the courtesy of the King, and, to mark his sense of it, sent for the pipes of state, according to the old Egyptian custom. The Viceroy first took a whiff, and was followed by his courtiers, after which the guests had a turn, and were permitted to exercise the privilege of continuing to smoke with his Highness during the remainder of the interview. Many of our readers will remember the appearance of the plump, portly, comfortable-looking Ismail Pacha, with his handsome beard; and he has altered but little since he paid a visit to this country. Our illustration represents the entrance of the Dutch Embassy into the reception-hall at the palace.



RECEPTION BY THE PACHA OF EGYPT OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE DUTCH EAST INDIES.





## NEW CATTLE LANDING-STAGE, THAMES HAVEN.

UNDER the designation of the Thames Haven Company, an association was some time ago formed, the object of which is to secure for the importers of foreign live stock the advantage of landing cattle at the railway station at Thames Haven, and, by means of the Tilbury and Southend lines, conveying them direct to the Metropolitan Cattle Market. Those advantages consist, in the first place, of avoiding all delays on the river beyond this particular point arising from fog and other impediments; of preventing the transit through the streets of the metropolis; and considerably shortening the time of transit to the ultimate destination of the cattle. The system having been found to work well, it was thought advisable to increase the accommodation at Thames Haven, and a new pier was erected. The works comprehended a pier, 186 ft. long, with an area of 7134 cubic feet, with four landing-places, so constructed that there is capability of disembarking cattle at all times, independent of high or low tides. It is furnished with a large steam-crane for hoisting out goods, and two lines of rails are to be laid on its surface, so that the transit from the vessels to the railway is easy and rapid, the trucks being loaded at the ship's side.

Attached to the establishment is a slaughter-house capable of disposing of any cattle which it may be desirable to forward to town in the shape of dead meat; while there are twenty-four pens, roomy and well ventilated, each of them well supplied with pure water from a well sunk for the purpose; and, the establishment being placed on the verge of fourteen acres of grass-land, there is all the food for the animals that may be required during their brief stay at this their point of departure for the market. It is quite evident that by these arrangements cattle, after the sea voyage—from which, in a certain sense, they have to suffer—will be relieved from many hours of river passage, with the double advantage of saving time and deterioration to the stock. It may be added that all sanitary precautions are carefully attended to, and a maximum of accommodation in regard to the space allotted to individual animals afforded. The plan of construction is, at the same time, simple and apparently economical; the appearance of the whole establishment being utilitarian in the best sense of that term.

## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 291.

### OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

IN obedience to the Royal command, Parliament assembled on Tuesday last. The time fixed for the House of Commons to meet was half-past one; but long before then, as usual, the House began to fill, and at the hour appointed there were about 200 members present. At twenty minutes to two Mr. Speaker arrived, in usual form, preceded by Lord Charles Russell, the Serjeant-at-Arms, and followed by the Rev. Charles Merivale, the Chaplain. Mr. Speaker, having to meet her Majesty, wore his grand state robe—black silk trimmed with gold; and the Serjeant-at-Arms appeared in full Court costume. There was no change in the order of proceedings, all being done according to prescribed custom. Mr. Speaker took his seat at the table; prayers were read by the Chaplain; and then, still seated at the table, Mr. Speaker waited until the summons from the Queen should arrive. Two o'clock was the time fixed, but her Majesty was rather late; and it was quite a quarter past before Black Rod arrived. As soon as Mr. Speaker had received notice that the Queen had arrived, he mounted to his chair. Here, by-the-way, was a slight deviation from old routine, just a step out of "the deep-trod foot-marks of ancient custom." Usually, Mr. Speaker does not take the chair until the knocks at the door announce the arrival of Black Rod; but on this occasion he moved from the table to the chair as soon as he was told that the Queen was on the throne. The reason for this slight divergence from the line was this:—On former occasions there were unseemly crowdings, and jostlings, and whisperings at the bar of the House of Lords. Mr. Speaker wished mildly to rebuke the members for their disorderly proceedings and to express a hope that on this occasion they would behave better, and this he did from the chair, whilst Black Rod was on his way, in a few stately words. He had scarcely closed his exhortation, when the doors were flung open, "Black Rod!" was shouted by the doorkeeper, and in marched Sir Augustus Clifford, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod. Sir Augustus was dressed in the Court uniform, blue, embossed and trimmed with gold, with the blue ribbon of the Order of the Bath round his neck. Very elaborately indeed was Sir Augustus adorned—too elaborately, as it seemed to us. Such a blaze, indeed, of blue and gold, that it seemed as if he were made for the clothes, and not the clothes for him. Sir Augustus used to be a very stately man and excellent actor. In years past no man could play his part as he could. With what infinite grace he used to bow to Mr. Speaker! and with what ease and accuracy, and even dignity, he performed the difficult task of marching backwards! He did all this as if he were to the manner born. But Sir Augustus is now very old; he is on the shady side of eighty; and, though he is still as upright as his official rod when he plants it on the table, his back is not so pliant as it was, and that backward march is evidently now a trying task. In nautical phrase, he gets adrift and is in danger of running foul, as he would have said in his young days; for Sir Augustus was not bred a courtier, but a sailor, and was for many years at sea. He entered the Navy in 1800, and during the great war saw service in Egypt and many other parts of the world. But in 1833, long after the war was over, he left the quarter-deck for the Court; for in that year he became Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod—with a comfortable salary, a splendid house, and, besides these periodical marchings, but little to do.

### A SERMON AND A BARRIER.

The sermon of Mr. Speaker certainly did some good for a time. The members left the House in better order than they have done for many years past. But the effect of this sermon, like that of most sermons, was but temporary. Across the House of Commons' lobby the members marched in decency and order, but in the House of Commons' corridor "the pace quickened"—the ranks were broken. In the central hall there was something like a rush, and it seemed not unlikely that Mr. Speaker and his cortège would, before he got to the Upper House, be hustled and jostled as heretofore, to the great damage of his state robes and to the ruffling of his temper and dignity. But suddenly the incipient rush was stopped, for at the entrance into the Lords' corridor the authorities of the House had erected a stout barrier, through the narrow passage in which only two members could pass at a time; and before the crowd of members could percolate, as it were, through the opening, Mr. Speaker and his attendants had arrived safely at the bar of the House of Lords; and so, what with the effect of Mr. Speaker's sermon at the beginning and the wooden barrier in the middle of the march, it was accomplished with something like order and with no danger. *Esto perpetua*, therefore: let the sermon become a Sessional order, and the barrier a permanent institution.

### READING THE ROYAL SPEECH.

That the Lord Chancellor should read the Royal Speech is not unprecedented. Charles I., who had an impediment of speech, once spake as follows to his Parliament:—"Now, because I am unfit for much speaking, I mean to bring up the fashion of my predecessors to have my Lord Keeper speak for me in most things; therefore have commanded him to speak something unto you at this time, which is more for formality than any great matter he hath to say unto you." Indeed, for long centuries the Lord Keeper always set forth in the opening of Parliament the reasons why it was called together, and the King only uttered some complimentary words, never venturing upon any matter relating to business. James I. used to indulge in a mass of commonplace stuff, larded with Latin, no doubt, and texts of scripture; but even he never touched the Parliamentary business. Charles II. first began the practice of opening Parliament with a speech previously prepared. He read his speech, excusing the practice by the plea that he wanted memory. The modern Royal Speech, consisting of a programme of the party in power, dates from the reign of William III. Let not our readers then object that her Majesty, in delegating the reading

of the Speech to her Lord Chancellor, has introduced a novelty. She has only brought up the fashion of her predecessors.

### THE EVENING SITTING.

When the Speech was finished, Mr. Speaker returned to the House of Commons. He did not, though, take the chair, but marched straight through to his own residence. "The House adjourned then?" No, it did not adjourn. The mace was left on the table; and when the bauble is in position the House is not adjourned. The sitting was merely suspended, and at a quarter to four Mr. Speaker glided in by the back way, and without form resumed his seat. When he arrived the House was full, but not crowded. No amendment was expected, and therefore there had been no special whip; the members who usually attend only were present. The birds of omen—the stormy petrels, as we call them—the men who seldom come unless they are summoned for a fight—were not there. The House then looked much as usual, except that the Conservatives were on the right and the Liberals on the left of the Speaker, a state of things to which we have not got used to yet, and perhaps shall hardly get used to before the command "As you were" shall be given, and once more the two great parties will change places. Soon after the Speaker resumed the chair Disraeli made his appearance, and of course was hailed with a volley of cheers from his party. The Conservative leader looks well, though time every year, as it does with us all, passes a deeper shade over him. Gladstone—who came in soon after, and was also received with a rattling salute from all the Liberal guns—seemed to have renewed his youth. He has thrown off the burden of office; has travelled, too, by sea and land; and is clearly in full health, and as lively as a colt. What a contrast is this to what he was when he left the House after the great division of last year! Then he looked pale, faded, and mortified. Now his face is bronzed by the sea air; his eye sparkles with health, and evidently he is inspired by hope rather than pressed down by disappointment. In short, he is rejuvenescent. Mr. Bright came in after Gladstone, and he, too, was greeted with cheers from his friends below the gangway. And so the hosts mustered on the first night, each under its elected chief, all peaceable, though, at present; but all, no doubt, expecting war before long; and war—there will be no question of that—war to the knife. How it will begin we scarcely can tell, and how it will end no mortal can foresee. In 1859, when Lord Hartington rose to move a vote of want of confidence, Hayter knew he should win, and Colonel Taylor foresaw that he should lose; but now the whips on both sides are at fault. They can see and hear the storm coming plainly enough; but the result even their practised sagacity does not enable them to discern.

### THE FIRST NIGHT.

The Address—Address to the Crown, readers, in reply to her Majesty's most gracious speech—was moved by the Honourable Mr. De Grey, Lord Walsingham's eldest son, and seconded by Mr. Graves: moved by a member of the aristocracy, seconded by a merchant, as the custom is. Both these gentlemen appeared in the blazing uniforms of a Deputy Lieutenant—scarlet with silver mountings—and looked, as they sat there in their finery, very conspicuous. Mr. De Grey seemed as if he had been used to this dress, Mr. Graves did not carry it with so much grace; probably this was the first time that he had ever appeared in uniform. Of the speeches of these gentlemen little need be said. They got through, as the phrase is, very well; which means that they did not break down. Mr. De Grey was at times rather lively, and was rewarded now and then with cheers. Moreover, he was short, which fact argues at least modesty and discretion—virtues highly appreciated in the House. Mr. Graves certainly was not lively, and, moreover, his speech was awfully long. "But the matter of these speeches, have you nothing to say about that?" perhaps some of our readers may ask. No; indeed, we did not hear them, and have not read them. We walked into the House three or four times just to see how the honourable gentlemen were getting on; but, as to listening to their speeches, "catch an old bird with chaff." We had read her Majesty's Speech, and that was enough. These Address speeches are only, with more or less art, and generally with no art at all, variations upon that theme. Besides, we knew the performers; had gauged their artistic capabilities, and were not attracted to listen to their music, but rather repelled. In short, dear readers, having been accustomed to attend the House for many years, and having a perfect knowledge of all the performers there, and their various talents or no talents, it is not often that we are tempted to listen to speeches. This may surprise you; but remember there is such a thing as satiety. Butchers' children, it is said, dislike meat, and confectioners never eat sweets. We cannot, therefore, say anything of the matter of these speeches, but can only report that the speakers "got through" very well. We thought that we should have had a long debate and a late night, but were agreeably disappointed; for, after a lively speech from Mr. Gladstone and a jaunt reply from Mr. Disraeli, both being in the best of humours, Mr. Speaker rose, and put the question; then, nobody else rising, the House adjourned.

### MR. KAVANAGH.

On Wednesday there was no small curiosity to see Mr. Kavanagh—the gentlemen born without arms or legs—take the oath; and this curiosity was satisfied, for soon after the House met the hon. member for the county of Wexford made his appearance. He entered the House through the door at the back of the Speaker, seated in a chair, which, by an ingenious contrivance, he can wheel about himself. Mr. Powell used to do this; but then he did it in the common way, by turning the high wheels of the chair with his hands. Mr. Kavanagh has no hands, but only short stumps; but necessity is the mother of invention, and some clever mechanic has contrived a simple piece of machinery by which Mr. Kavanagh can propel his chair as easily as Mr. Powell could his. On each side of his chair there is a cup; in these cups Mr. Kavanagh places his stumps, and, by a circular motion, he turns a perpendicular rod, which, by means of two cog-wheels, turns the axle of the greater wheels, and thus propels the chair forward; and, as there is in the front of the chair a guiding wheel, he can, of course, steer which way he pleases. Mr. Kavanagh of course took the oath sitting, holding the Testament between his stumps. He signed the book as easily as any other member could, holding the pen as he held the Testament. It is the custom for every new member, after he has taken the oath, to shake hands with the Speaker. Mr. Kavanagh, of course, could not do that. He therefore bowed only to the Speaker as he passed out. Where he will sit, and how he will speak—for speak he will, we may be sure, as he is an able man—the Speaker has not yet decided.

THE COURT.—The Queen will hold during the ensuing season, at Buckingham Palace, five Courts for the reception and presentation of a certain number of ladies and gentlemen. In order to avoid fatigue to her Majesty, the number of ladies and gentlemen attending each Court will be limited to 260. Her Majesty's Courts will be held on March 7, 14, and 23, April 2, and a day, to be hereafter fixed, in the month of June. The regulations will be the same as last year. Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales will, after Easter, hold on behalf of her Majesty two Drawingrooms at St. James's Palace, to receive those who cannot be included at her Majesty's Courts under the above regulations. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will, as last year, hold Levées at St. James's Palace on her Majesty's behalf. The first Levée will be in the first week in March.

A STORY OF THE FRENCH BAR.—M. Paul Girard, in a sketch of that eminent French advocate, Maître Emmanuel Arago, gives a curious illustration of the license which the members of the Bar in that country occasionally allow themselves on behalf of their clients. The case in which M. Arago first made a reputation was the trial of a young man named Huber and Mlle. Laure Gouville for a plot against Louis Philippe. M. Arago, in defending the former, exclaimed, "Huber is a man whom I esteem, whom I love, whom I shall never forget, as I hope he will never forget me—a man, a gentleman, whom I could desire to be my own brother. Surely you will give him back to me." And at the close of this singular peroration the impassioned counsel fell upon his client's neck and embraced him. The jury, however, took their own view of the case, and returned a verdict of guilty. When the prisoner appeared to receive sentence, M. Arago again hugged his client; while M. Jules Favre, who defended Mlle. Gouville, flung himself into her arms and kissed her—perhaps a more natural and pleasant proceeding. "In fact," as M. Girard remarks, "there was a great deal of embracing in that case."

## Imperial Parliament.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### THE ADDRESS.

Lord BEAUCHAMP moved, and Earl DELAMERE seconded, the Address in answer to the Royal Speech.

Earl RUSSELL, contenting himself with a passing reference to the items of foreign policy alluded to in the Speech, addressed himself to the paragraph relating to Reform, from which he inferred an intention on the part of the Government speedily to introduce a bill dealing with that subject. He imputed to the leaders of the present Government that they had in former Sessions resisted all propositions to lower the borough franchise, and had met the moderate bill proposed by the late Government unfairly and disinclined. After vindicating the separation of the question of the franchise from that of the redistribution of seats, which, he contended, would have impeded and delayed a settlement of the question, Lord Russell promised to consider upon its merits any bill which the Government should propose, and would rejoice to support one which should confer the franchise upon a large body of the artisans of the country, who are well qualified to possess it.

The Earl of DERBY announced that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would on Monday next state the course proposed by the Government in respect of the Reform question. He, however, reminded the House that any attempt at a satisfactory settlement of the question must be unsuccessful if approached in the spirit and temper evinced by Earl Russell. The question must be considered dispassionately, and not in a party spirit, if it were to be settled at all, as there was no possible Government which at the present time could carry a Reform bill unassisted. The late Government had tried and had failed, notwithstanding a large apparent majority; but its defeat was due not merely to its opponents, but also to its supporters. Mutual forbearance and abstention from recrimination were necessary to obtain the passing of any measure upon this long-agitated subject. Referring to the question of the Alabama claims, the Earl of Derby described the course of the negotiations, and declared that if the United States desired arbitration upon any precisely-specified questions the Government was prepared to meet them in a friendly spirit, and if an impartial arbitrator could be agreed upon, to submit to him the questions at issue.

The Address was then agreed to.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE ADDRESS.

In the House of Commons new writs were moved for, and Colonel TAYLOR gave notice of most of the bills promised in the Royal Speech.

Mr. DE GREY moved the Address, and Mr. GRAVES seconded it. Neither gentleman said much that was worth notice.

Mr. GLADSTONE announced that he had no amendment to move; and, after glancing at the Confederation scheme and one or two other matters, asked for some explicit information as to the Reform intentions of the Government. He hoped the Government would be prepared on an early day to say they were going to deal with the question on their own responsibility in a fair way.

Mr. DISRAELI, in a speech more jauntly than usual, said he should take the earliest day to state the intentions of the Government. On Monday next he would go into the whole question.

The Address having been agreed to, the House adjourned before seven o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On the report of the Address being brought up, Mr. HADFIELD expressed his dissent with the omission of all mention of church rates from the Royal Speech, and moved an amendment to that effect, which was seconded by Mr. BAINES, but pronounced to be out of order by the SPEAKER.

Leave was obtained by Mr. Ayrton to bring in a bill for the application of a portion of the revenues of the Finsbury Prebend to the relief of spiritual distress in the metropolis; by Mr. McLEARN, for a bill to abolish the Edinburgh annuity tax; and by Mr. D. Griffith, for a bill to enable shareholders of joint-stock companies to vote by means of voting-papers.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

Lord St. Leonards introduced a bill to provide a means of adjudication in disputes between masters and workmen.

The Earl of Derby brought in a bill on the subject of public schools, identical with the one introduced last year but too late in the Session to be passed. The bill was read a first time.

The Bishop of Down moved for certain returns connected with the revenues of the State Church in Ireland, which were granted.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE TORNADO.

Lord STANLEY, in reply to Mr. Lusk, said that the Government had been compelled to protest, under legal advice, against some of the proceedings of the Spanish authorities. In a few days all the papers would be laid before the House.

### INSOLVENT RAILWAYS.

Sir S. NORTHCOOTE rose to ask for leave to introduce a bill to make better provision for the arrangement of the affairs of railway companies unable to meet their engagements. Sir Stafford said the proposal of Government was that, when a railway got into difficulties and its operations were suspended, it was provided that two or three members should send a petition to the Board of Trade. Time would then be allowed for objections, and afterwards inspectors, appointed for the purpose, would examine the railway, call witnesses, and prepare a scheme, for which the Board of Trade would be responsible, which scheme would be brought into Parliament in the shape of a bill. If this bill passed both Houses simultaneously, it would be referred to a joint committee of both Houses, and the committee would have the power of dealing with the bill the same as an ordinary committee. In that way, it was hoped, means would be provided for each special case on its own merits; the merits being decided on by inspectors in the first place, who would not be hampered by rules of evidence. What was essential was that there should be only one Parliamentary inquiry, so as to keep down the expense; and he considered that this would be sufficient, seeing that previously there would be an investigation outside. He had endeavoured briefly to sketch out the provisions of the bill; it was quite ready, and would be in the hands of members in a few days, and he hoped that, on a day not far distant, they would have an opportunity of discussing its principles. He trusted it would have the effect of relieving companies unable to meet their engagements; and he was inclined to think, if they adopted such a scheme as he had sketched, it would encourage shareholders to take an interest in their affairs, and prevent companies from getting into such a state as some companies were at present. At least, such was the scheme which the Government had decided on.

After some discussion, leave was given to bring in the bill, and it was read the first time.

### LOCAL DUES ON SHIPPING.

Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOOTE obtained leave to bring in a bill for the abolition of certain exemptions from local dues on shipping and on goods carried in ships, and the bill was accordingly brought in and read a first time.

### DECLARATION AGAINST TRANSUBSTANTIATION.

Sir COLMAN O'LOGHLIN obtained leave to bring in a bill to abolish the declaration against transubstantiation, invocation of saints, and the sacrifice of the mass as practised in the Church of Rome, and to render it unnecessary to subscribe the same as a qualification for holding any civil office, franchise, or right. The bill was introduced and read a first time.

### RELIGIOUS DISABILITIES.

Sir COLMAN O'LOGHLIN moved for leave to bring in a bill to remove certain religious disabilities affecting some of her Majesty's subjects, and to amend the law relating to oaths of office. He anticipated much opposition to the bill in certain quarters; but the objects of it were to remove the oaths which now prevented Roman Catholics accepting the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; to remove the prohibition to Roman Catholic Lord Chancellors, Judges, and Mayors attending Divine worship in their robes of state; and, lastly, to abolish obnoxious oaths to Roman Catholics in every respect, the same as had been done in the cases of members of Parliament.

After a short discussion, in which Mr. Newdegate, Captain Herbert, Mr. Hadfield, and Mr. Whalley took part, leave was given; and the bill was read a first time.

MR. BRIGHT AND MR. DANBY SEYMOUR.—The newly-issued number of the *Fortnightly Review* prints, in conspicuous place and type, the following retraction and apology:—"Two unconsidered charges were made against Mr. Bright in the November number of this review. I represented him as having said—first, that 'all the land of England is in the hands of 150 proprietors'; and, secondly, that 'the poor only are fit to legislate for the rich.' I am happy to retract both charges. It is needless to add that I very sincerely regret having made them.—HENRY D. SEYMOUR."

HAMPSTEAD-HEATH.—At the last meeting of the Board of Works a report was made of the interview between Sir John Thwaites and Sir Thomas Mayon Wilson, Bart., as to whether the latter was willing to part with his interest in Hampstead-heath, and on what terms. Sir John appears to have cleverly baited his hook with an assurance of the probability of Parliament letting Sir Thomas sell his other land at Hampstead if he consented to part with the heath to the Board of Works, but Sir Thomas would not bite. The gallant knight declared that the value of his interest in the heath was probably from £5000 to £10,000 per acre. The board decided that at such a price it was useless to think further of negotiations; and on that score there is an end of the business.



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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1867.

## PUBLIC BREATHING GROUNDS.

To whom does Hampstead-heath belong? That seems a plain question enough, and we dare say most people will be ready to answer unhesitatingly, "To the public, of course. Has it not always belonged to the public? has it not always been free to the public? and is it not free to the public now? Have not attempts, direct and indirect, been made, Session after Session, for years past, to induce Parliament to authorise the appropriation of the heath by a private person, and have they not always been defeated? Decidedly, Hampstead-heath is public property so far as the right to traverse it at will is concerned, and the rights of the public must be maintained at whatever cost." This, we dare say, would be the language held by nine out of every ten men to whom the question with which we set out was put. And yet there are two sides to this question as well as to all others; and Sir Thomas Maryon Wilson takes a view of the matter very different indeed from that indicated above. He is decidedly of opinion that the heath belongs wholly and entirely to himself; that he has a perfect right to do whatever he pleases with it; and that no one is entitled to interfere with his operations, under any pretext whatever.

Of course, both these opinions cannot be right; and yet neither is wholly wrong. The public have rights, and Sir Thomas Wilson has rights, over Hampstead-heath; and the point is how to reconcile the two conflicting claims. The difficulty is that the rights of neither party have been defined: they are of the vaguest kind. To Sir Thomas Wilson appertain the prerogatives attaching to his position as lord of the manor; for the public are claimed the privileges of free access and untrammelled use of this favourite breezy upland. Admitting both these claims, we have not advanced one step towards a solution of the difficulty; for the questions at once arise—what are the prerogatives of the lord of the manor? and is the exercise of these consistent with the enjoyment of the privileges claimed for the public? Obviously, if we accept Sir Thomas Wilson's interpretation of his rights, those of the public are at once shut out. Sir Thomas claims the right to build all over the heath; and, of course, if that were done, the public could have neither free access to, nor liberty of traversing, the ground they have so long been in the habit of deeming their own.

Some means of compromising the matters in dispute should certainly be devised, for both the public and Sir Thomas Wilson have rights, and most vitally important interests too, in Hampstead-heath, though, perhaps, neither party is entitled to all it claims. But even in the way of compromise there are difficulties. An attempt to arrange the matter has been made, and has failed. Sir John Thwaites has had an interview with Sir Thomas Wilson; but the latter exhibited no accommodating spirit. He had been balked in his projects, and, as he thinks, hindered of his lawful gains; and he is determined that those who have done this—that is, the public or persons acting on their behalf—shall pay both for the past and for the future if they desire to preserve Hampstead-heath as a place of public resort—as one of the Breathing Grounds of the metropolis. The public, Sir Thomas says, must purchase his rights in the heath, and those rights he values at from £5000 to £10,000 per acre. This the Board of Works thinks much too high a price; and so negotiations have been broken off. But can the matter be allowed to rest there? We think not; and furthermore, as we are persuaded, it need not. There is, as it seems to us, a simple and a just, and a well recognised, means of solving the difficulty. Sir Thomas Wilson threatens to build a "workman's town" on the heath—that is, grant short leases to persons willing to construct an inferior class of houses, to be let at low rents. Now this, in itself, would be a great boon; but it would be a temporary advantage gained by incurring a grievous permanent loss. To obviate this, an injunction from the proper court of law should be taken out to prevent Sir Thomas Wilson proceeding with the threatened erections; and a bill should at once be introduced into Parliament for powers to purchase the heath on behalf of the metropolitan public, and to appoint commissioners, properly qualified, to ascertain and assess the rights of all parties in the ground. A fair—nay, a liberal—compensation should be apportioned to the lord of the manor, and the delightful old heath might thus be

secured for ever, in all its natural beauty, for the delectation of the public. Better adopt this course than waste both time and money in contesting the rights of ownership in the law courts.

What we have been saying regarding Hampstead-heath is applicable to other open spaces in the neighbourhood of London. Most of these open spaces are rapidly disappearing, becoming absorbed, in fact, in that seemingly interminable wilderness of bricks and mortar known as the metropolis of the British Empire. The volunteers have obtained a respite for Wimbledon; but Wandsworth, Tooting, and others of the commons near London are practically gone; and the largest and best of them all—Epping and Hainault forests, in Essex—are fast being sized upon by the unhallowed hands of building speculators. The rights of the Crown in the Essex forests ought to have saved, as they included, those of the public; but a miserable economy and fear of expense in litigation have induced our officials to submit to a sacrifice of both. We are glad, therefore, that an effort is to be made to save the wretched remnant of the East-end Londoner's favourite outdoor resort, Epping Forest, from following the fate of so much of what was once the special hunting-ground of his Worship the Lord Mayor and the other City magnates. To all efforts to preserve what little is left of the public breathing-places of London we wish a hearty "God speed," and shall always be delighted to do our best to help on the work.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN is said to be preparing a book of her own composition for the press, and is moreover engraving the plates by which it is to be illustrated.

THE PRINCE OF WALES will preside at the 152nd anniversary festival of the Welsh Charity on the 1st of March next. His Royal Highness has forwarded £25 towards establishing a central hall in connection with the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, in addition to £21 previously for the general fund.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON has just ordered the foundation of an additional number of soup-kitchens in the poorer quarters of Paris. For one sou any working man will be able to obtain about a pint of soup, two ounces of cooked meat, or a plate of rice, haricot beans, or other vegetables.

A SON OF LORD SHAFTESBURY has been articled to a celebrated engineer, of George-street, Westminster.

GENERAL PEEL has presented Eton College with a Russian trophy, in the shape of a cannon captured at Sebastopol. A suitable carriage for the gun is to be made at the Royal Arsenal. The gift of the gun is owing to the intervention of the Earl of Longford.

SIR EDWARD CLARENCE KERRISON has resigned his seat for East Suffolk. The Hon. Baronet was elected in July without opposition, and the cause of his retirement is continued indisposition.

THREE COLONIAL BISHOPS were consecrated at Canterbury, by the Archbishop, on Saturday. There was a very large attendance in the cathedral to witness the ceremony.

MR. THOMAS HUGHES, M.P., has been appointed on the Commission to inquire into the organisation of trades unions and other associations of employers and workmen.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN expired on Wednesday week, at Weston, in Warwickshire. The deceased Earl, when Lord Duncan, was member for Bath from 1841 to 1852, and led an agitation which resulted in the repeal of the window tax. His death was preceded by an illness of some duration.

THE FRENCH DECIMAL SYSTEM OF COINAGE has been adopted in Roumania.

THE BODIES of two of the men belonging to the cigar-ship *Ross Winans*, who were drowned, some weeks since, off Northfleet, have been found.

TWENTY-FIVE LADIES have entered their names for the ensuing session at the Ladies' Medical College, London.

THE POST OF HISTORIOGRAPHER ROYAL OF SCOTLAND has become vacant by the death of Mr. George Brodie, who had held the appointment many years.

LEGACY AND SUCCESSION DUTY was paid, during last year, under one will, to the amount of £150,260. The same estate contributed £42,000 to the probate duty, the property being valued at £2,800,000.

GREAT AGITATION, it is said, prevails at Carlsruhe, in consequence of the discovery that the Crown diamonds of Baden have been stolen and replaced by glass.

THE NUMBER OF PAPERMAKERS in the United Kingdom is declining. In 1864, 414 took out licenses; in 1865, 402; in 1866, 392.

THE MARRIAGE is announced, for April next, of Emma, daughter of Baron M. C. de Rothschild, Consul-General of Bavaria at Frankfurt, to her cousin, Baron Nathaniel de Rothschild, of London, M.P., son of Baron Lionel.

THE MANCHESTER REFORM CLUB was inaugurated on Tuesday by a luncheon, at which about one hundred gentlemen were present. Speeches were delivered by Mr. J. S. Mill, M.P., Mr. Goldwin Smith, and other gentlemen.

THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT has just authorised the establishment of a society for the spread of the orthodox religion among heathens, Mussulmans, and Buddhists in its territory.

THE PACKINGCASE-MAKERS of London, to the number of about 500 men, struck work on Monday. The cause of quarrel between employers and employed is some alterations the masters propose to make in the hours of work in the trade.

A NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS have arrived at Tenerife from Spain, including the Speaker of the House of Deputies. A gun-boat was in the harbour, with steam up, preparing to transport them to the island of Fernando Po.

APARTMENTS on the south side of Windsor Castle are being got in readiness for the accommodation of Princess Helena, whose accouchement is expected to take place in April next. In the following month their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian will take up their permanent abode at Frogmore Lodge.

BEAR'S FLESH is SELLING in the Paris meat markets at the rate of five francs the kilogramme, or 1s. 10d. per pound. The consumption of horse-flesh is increasing rapidly among the poorer classes in the different quarters of Paris.

THE RIVER TAY, which in 1854 only yielded £9269 as rent for the salmon fisheries, now produces no less than £47,618; and this large rental is on the increase.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH FISHERY COMMISSIONERS have completed their labours. Among the most important of the changes recommended is an arrangement for "the reciprocal admission of the fishing-boats of each country to the harbours of the other for the sale of fish."

THE PROTEST OF THE LONDON CLERGY against Ritualistic practices has received 423 signatures, and its promoters state that the incumbents and curates in charge of parishes who have signed have the care of more than 1,101,600 souls, according to the Census of 1861. By the same Census, the whole population of the diocese was 2,570,079.

SOME MISCHIEVOUS WAGS one night pulled down a turner's sign and put it over a lawyer's door. In the morning it read, "All sorts of twisting and turning done here."

CATTLE PLAGUE HAS REAPPEARED IN LONDON, an outbreak of the disease having taken place in the dairy of Mrs. Nicholls, Liverpool-road, Islington. Strict measures have been taken to prevent the spread of the disorder.

AMONG THE PASSENGERS who landed at Southampton, on Saturday, from the *Tanjore*, were fourteen Japanese Princes and seven Japanese conjurers; two of the latter are women, the first that have ever left Japan.

A PUBLIC MEETING, attended by a large number of Scotch nobility and gentlemen of influence, was held in Edinburgh, on Saturday last, for the purpose of memorialising her Majesty's Government and petitioning both Houses of Parliament in support of increased endowment to the University of Edinburgh.

MR. SAMUEL MORLEY is adopting an extensive system of pensions in his manufactory at Nottingham. To a large number of aged framework-knitters who are past work he has promised 7s. 6d. per week until their death; to others who were better circumstanced he made a donation of £5.

MOST STRINGENT MEASURES are being taken in Holland and Belgium for the suppression of the cattle plague. In Holland a commission has reported in favour of killing every head of cattle in the infected districts. Prussia has ordered the strictest examination of everything coming over the border from Holland. No parcel is passed which contains hay or straw.

## NAVAL EXPENDITURE.

AN important pamphlet, entitled "The Naval Expenditure from 1860 to 1866, and its Results," has just been published by Mr. Ridgway, of Piccadilly. It is evidently intended as a defence of the late Board of Admiralty, and may be considered as officially inspired. The following is a summary of its contents. The opening paragraph states that the department of the Admiralty has for a long time been the subject of accusation and complaint, and that these have been always to the same effect—namely, that for the money expended year by year upon the Navy the country has not received an equivalent return. After stating that the permanent officers of the department are prohibited from vindicating their proceedings, and that outsiders are without the necessary information, even if they were willing to incur the trouble of defending them, the writer proceeds to name a definite accusation which has been made against the late board. It is to the effect that the Admiralty had, in the course of six years, wasted no less than £70,000,000, which had been voted for the purposes of the Navy; and that, in consequence of such great waste, the ships and guns now possessed by this country were inferior to those of other Powers. These statements the writer believes to be incorrect. The late board, instead of having neglected their duties, devoted themselves to the advancement of those measures on which the future interests of the British Navy must depend. Before proceeding to a discussion of the measures to which he alludes, and which are classified under six heads, it is thought necessary to refer to the condition of the Navy in previous years. For twenty years preceding the Russian War comparatively small demands were made for the expenditure of the Navy, and yet in each Session of Parliament outcries were heard for reduction and retrenchment, the estimates of the year 1835 being pointed to as the model for imitation. In 1852 our steam-fleet consisted of five steam-ships of the line, and four ships with auxiliary engines. There were, however, twelve other steam-ships in process of construction. The Navy Estimates for that year were £5,700,000. Two years later the prospect of a war with Russia led to a rapid augmentation of the estimates. In 1854 they were over £10,000,000, and the actual expenditure of the year exceeded these by about £5,000,000. In March, 1854, war was declared, and the Admiralty was called upon to provide a naval force. By great exertions a fleet was sent to the Baltic. The composition of the crews was imperfect, there being a lamentable deficiency of petty officers and first-class seamen. Vessels and gun-boats were finished or built hastily, the timber used being unseasoned, and the cost of maintaining and repairing them has been an ever-recurring source of inconvenience and complaint. This, the writer thinks, made it obvious that retrenchment and economy are not always synonymous terms, and hence it was that on the return of peace the estimates were not reduced to their previous amount. In December, 1858, Lord Derby appointed an official committee to report, first, on the causes which occasioned the continued large expenditure—the last estimates which had been voted exceeded £8,000,000—and secondly, on the naval force of this country, as compared with the force of foreign Powers, especially that of France. In the January following the report was made. It showed that the number of steam-vessels, which was only 177 in 1852, had been increased to 464; that whilst the ships of the line built, being built, or converted as steamers were seventeen in 1852, exclusive of four block-ships; in 1858 fifty ships were in various stages of progress, in addition to nine block-ships. In other ways the committee showed an increase in expenditure; but instead of assisting to reduce the estimates they recommended that money should be voted for the rapid conversion of ships of the line, as well as for the completion of the ships in progress. These recommendations were adopted by the Government, and Sir John Pakington laid the subject before the House of Commons in a speech which created considerable alarm. Besides a large addition to the vote for dockyard wages and materials, he proposed a special vote of £250,000 for building two iron-plated frigates. The proposals were received favourably by Parliament; but before much progress had been made with the estimates, an adverse vote on the Derby-Disraeli Reform Bill led to the resignation of Ministers. In acceding to office, Lord Palmerston and his colleagues agreed to adopt the estimates of their predecessors—indeed, three months of the financial year had passed before the new Admiralty Board entered upon their duties. When they met, under the Duke of Somerset, they found the daily business of the office heavily augmented by the last estimates. The war with China followed, and led to a large increase in the estimates of 1860. In each succeeding year the estimates were reduced. In the six years—1860 to 1865—the total amount voted for the Navy was £69,107,900. A tabular statement of the actual votes for each of the six years is given as an appendix to the pamphlet, and a reference to them shows that half of the whole amount—or, indeed, nearly £36,000,000—was taken for wages, victuals, half-pay, pensions, medicines for the Navy, and allowances to the reserve force. Thus it appears that during the period referred to the charge for men was about £6,000,000 a year, or more than the whole Navy Estimates in the year 1852. In that year the estimates were £5,835,588. The writer states that there is no charge against the Board of Admiralty for extravagance in regard to the pay or the pensions of the Navy. On the contrary, the board claim credit for having given effect to various recommendations of Committees and Commissions upon the important subjects of manning the Navy and creating a reserve of seamen. The work done by the late board is then described in detail under the following heads:—1, the manning of the Navy; 2, the establishment of a reserve of seamen; 3, the construction of ironclads and other ships; 4, the armament of the Navy; 5, the improvement of dockyards and docks; and, 6, the introduction of more accurate estimates and accounts. On the accession of the late board to office there was so great a want of seamen that a high bounty had been adopted to attract men to the Royal Navy. Many of the men so obtained were in every way unfit for the service. A better system has now been introduced, and a better class is provided. The course pursued by the Admiralty in providing ships and armaments has resulted in creating a most powerful fleet of ironclads armed, or in progress of being armed, with guns unsurpassed by the artillery of any other country. Docks and basins have been improved, and larger dockyards commenced on a scale adequate to the requirements of the Royal Navy in future years. Looking at what is shown to have been done, the writer asks those who have accused the late board to point out any six years in the history of the British Navy wherein such immense changes have been accomplished as within these last six years. If Parliament should determine upon a considerable reduction of the Navy Estimates, such a result must be attained, not by departmental retrenchments, but by a change of public policy. If our naval forces were withdrawn from distant stations, a reduction could easily be made in the number of ships in commission, the work in our dockyards would be diminished, the demands for naval stores lessened; establishments abroad, coal depôts, and other sources of expenditure would be abolished; and the general duties of the Navy would be restricted to the defence of our own coasts and the few military positions which it might be deemed necessary to maintain. There is no doubt that the adoption of such a policy would be seriously detrimental to the future efficiency of the British Navy. A reduction of 12,000 or 15,000 men might be obtained by abandoning the Pacific, the south-east coast of America, and the stations to the eastward of the Cape; but such a course would disorganise the whole system of the Navy, and leave this country in a few years without experienced officers or well-trained seamen. From these considerations, taken in connection with other requirements for the maintenance of the Navy at home, there is but little prospect for some years to come that the Naval Estimates can be reduced below the sum of £10,000,000. Those who hold that a Minister of Marine would be more acceptable to the country than a Board of Admiralty are told that a change of name would be immaterial; the conduct of business must be much the same under either system. In the last sentence a hope is expressed that one result of the pamphlet will be to secure for future Administrations a fairer and more dispassionate consideration than has been vouchsafed to the late Board of Admiralty.



**SIR E. LANDSEER, R.A.**

SIR EDWIN LANDSEER, the finest animal-painter in England—perhaps in the world—and who has just afforded, in the Trafalgar lions, one more proof of his genius, is the third and youngest son of the late John Landseer, A.R.A. and F.S.A., some time associate engraver to the Royal Academy, and was born in London, in 1802. He excelled in the painting of animals while still a boy, and became a student of the Academy in 1816. He began to exhibit when little more than fourteen years of age. His earliest productions attracted much attention and gave great promise of future excellence. Among the best known of his numerous pictures are the following, all of which have been exhibited at the Royal Academy:—"A Highland Breakfast" (1834), "The Drover's Departure" (1835), "The Dog and the Shadow" (1826), "A Fireside Party" (1829), "There's no Place like Home" (1842), "The Two Dogs" (1822), "The Old Shepherd's Chief Mourner" (1837), "A Jack in Office" (1833), "Tethered Rams" (1839), "Sancho Panza and Dapple" and "The Angler's Guard" (1824), "Suspense" (1834), "Comical Dogs" (1836), "Young Roebuck and Rough Hounds" (1840), "The Eagle's Nest" (1834). The above are all in the Sheepshanks Collection at South Kensington; where also are his twofold famous compositions of "War" and "Peace." Equally celebrated are his pictures of "Bolton Abbey in the Olden Time," "Titania," "Laying down the Law," "The late Duke of Wellington, accompanied by his Daughter-in-Law, Visiting the Field of Waterloo." In 1858 he exhibited "Deer-Stalking," the first of his large drawings in chalk which have since become so popular; in 1859 his picture of "Doubtful Crumbs" and "A Kind Star;" in 1860 his "Flood in the Highlands;" and in 1861 "The Shrew Tamed;" with three large drawings in chalk; and more recently "Windsor Park," "Squirrels Cracking Nuts," and "Man Proposes, but God Disposes."

**SIR E. LANDSEER'S LIONS.**

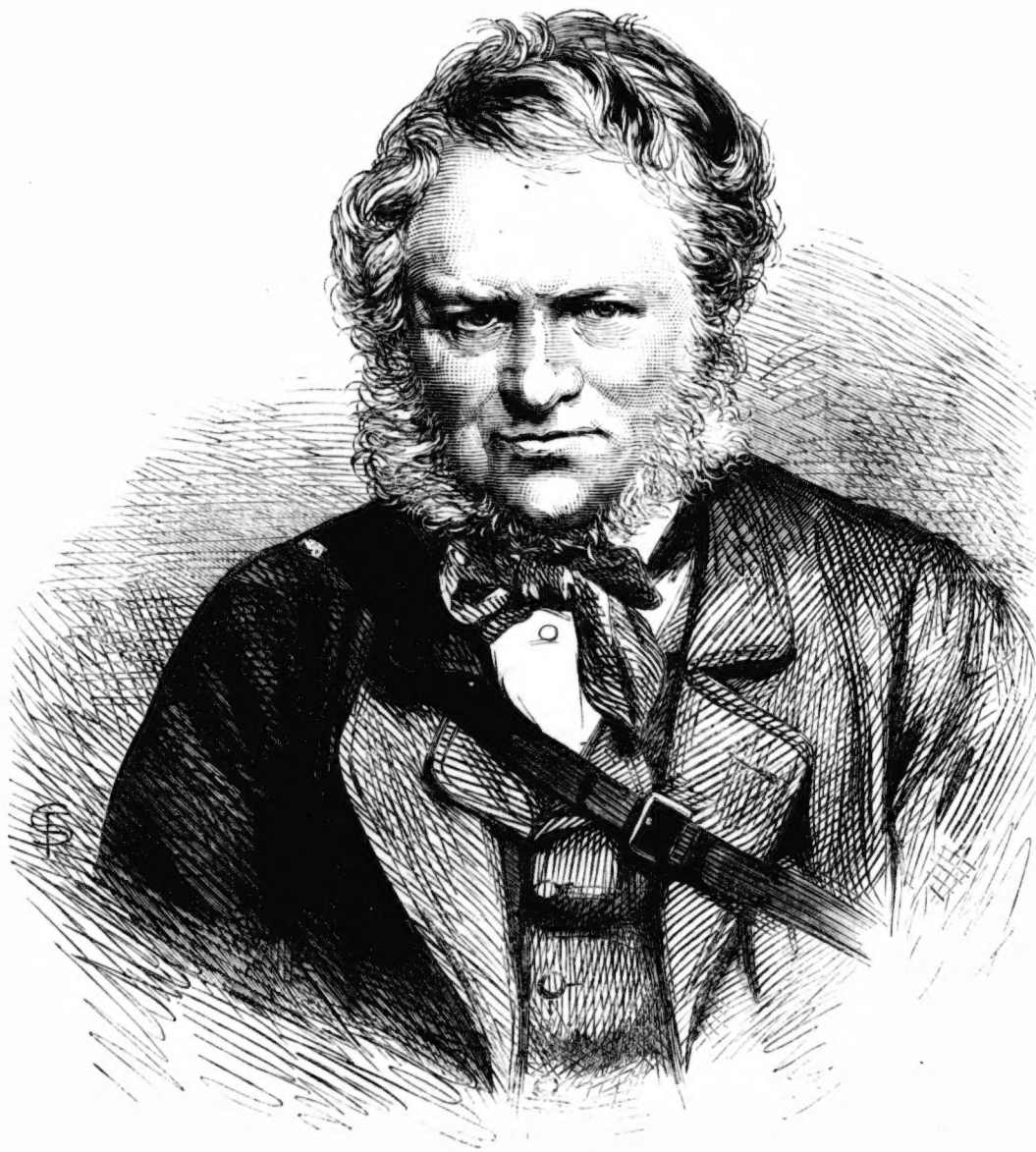
AFTER a delay which has been the subject of not a little complaint—reasonable or unreasonable matters little now—Sir Edwin Landseer's lions were, last week, placed in their positions on the pedestal of Nelson's monument in

Trafalgar-square. The artistic merits of Sir Edwin's work have received different appreciations; but, on the whole, the verdict is one of approval, especially so from the general public, who care little

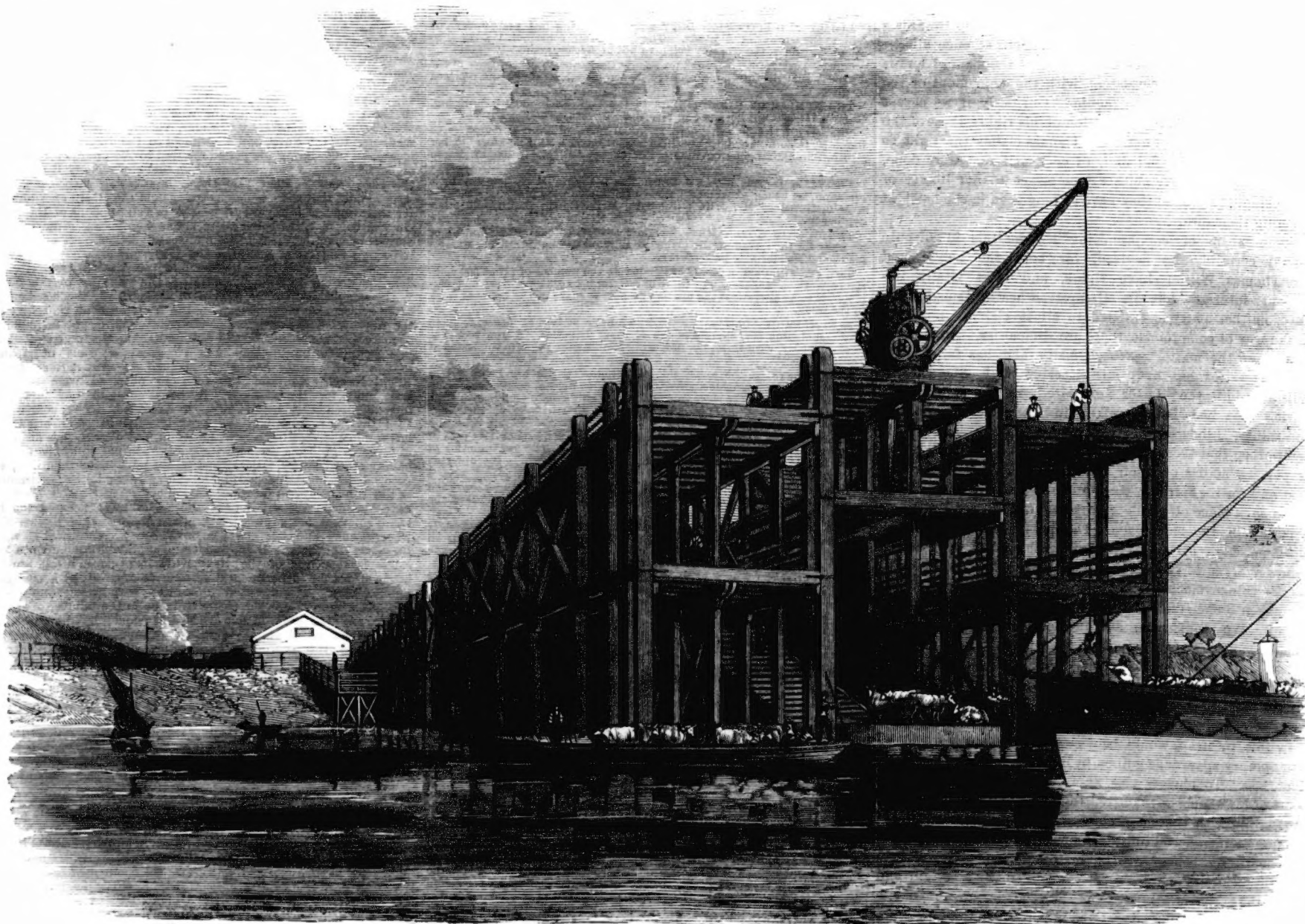
care that, after the casting, there should be nothing left for the chaser. Usually, in bronzework, there is much to be done in the way of chasing; but here the chaser has had nothing to do, and

for minute, perhaps carping, criticism of details. We append the remarks of some of our daily contemporaries on these latest emanations from Sir Edwin's studio:—

"Any reference to the delay which has occurred in the execution of the lions for the Nelson monument has now for some years been an unfailing source of merriment in the London theatres. It is a pity to spoil the prosperity of so easy-going a jest; but it may be well to point out that Sir Edwin Landseer, who has to bear the brunt of the attack, is in no way responsible for the delay. He received the commission from the last Tory Government as they were leaving office in 1855, and eight years have not yet elapsed since then. In the interval he has been fully employed in painting. Year after year the walls of the Royal Academy have borne witness to his untiring energy; and we know that the business of a great painter, like any other great business, cannot be stopped in mid-career in order that the genius which is devoted to it may be turned into other channels. Every artist of high rank has many commissions on hand which it would be utterly impossible for him to throw aside on a sudden; and it is unreasonable to suppose that an artist who has attained the renown of Sir Edwin Landseer, and for whose works there is the greatest demand, could forego the occupation of his life in order to give his whole attention to the sculpture of lions for the Nelson monument. In this view alone, the period of eight years which he has devoted to the lions will appear moderate enough; and if, furthermore, we take into account his manner of working, it will be admitted that he has deserved the praise even of promptitude. There is not an inch of surface in the modelling of these lions which is not the work of his own hands. A great sculptor generally has a staff of assistants to carry out his ideas—to present them in the rough—to prepare them for the finishing touches of the master. Sir Edwin Landseer has had no assistant in his work. All has been done by his own hand, every hair of it; and done with such

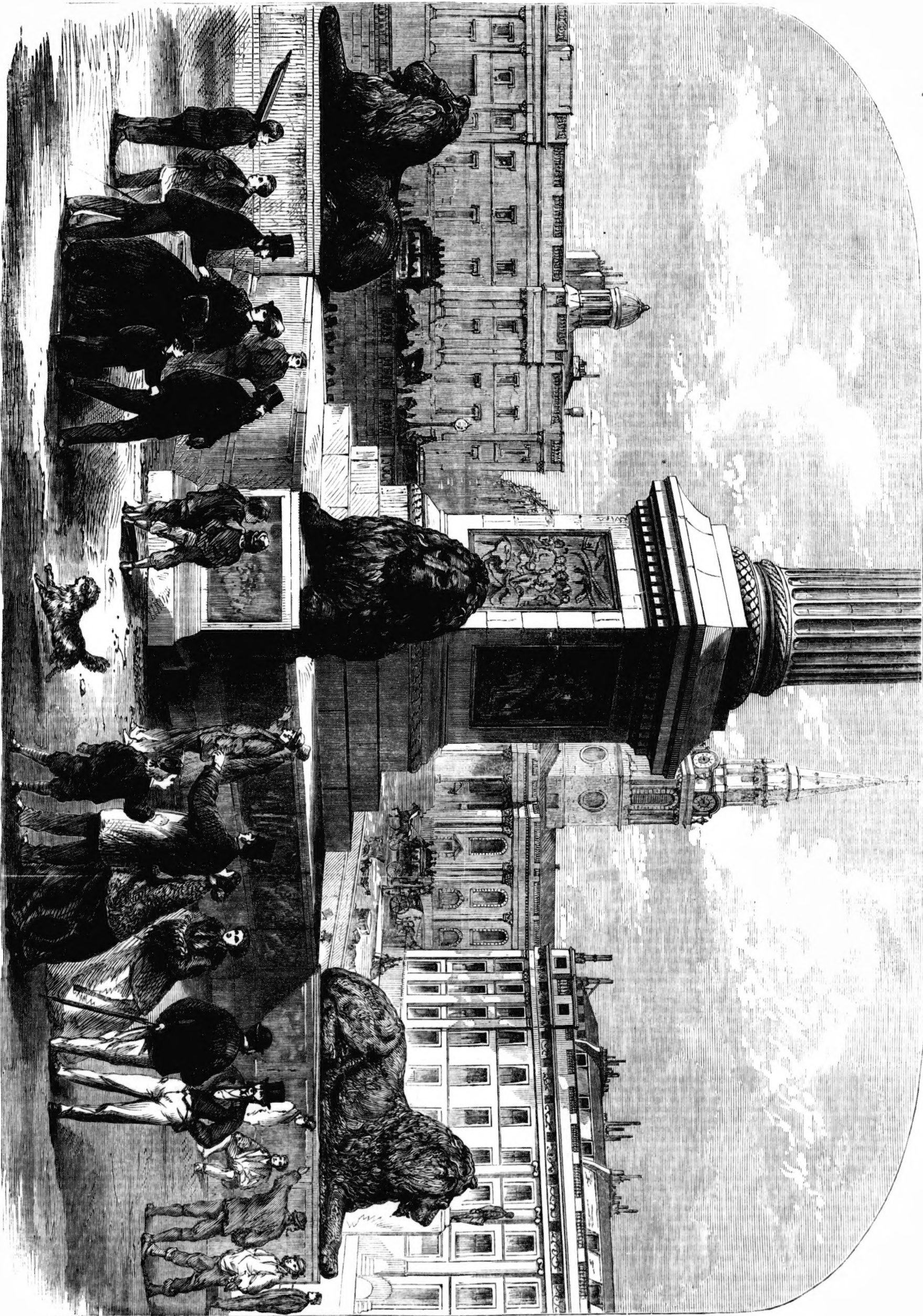


SIR EDWIN LANDSEER, R.A.



NEW CATTLE LANDING-STAGE AT THAMES HAVEN.





THE NELSON LIONS, TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.—(SIR E. LANDSEER, SCULPTOR.)



the spectator may be confident that every touch he sees is a perfect impress of the clay model. Anyone who will consider the amount of labour to Sir Edwin Landseer which is implied in all this—labour, too, bestowed on a material to which he was unaccustomed—will allow that slowness is the very last charge to be laid to his account.

"In point of fact, however, the grandeur of the result which has been attained may well excuse any amount of delay. The lions were uncovered on Thursday week, and we may say confidently that no street, no square in this metropolis can boast of any finer work of art. Four in number, the lions are couched on pedestals that jut diagonally from the four corners of the base of the monument. Each colossal figure is not only grand in itself, but all, together with the monument, form a composition which will render Trafalgar-square what it has never hitherto been, save to cabmen, who measure their distances from Charing-cross, the central point of the metropolis. The artist has been guided by a true instinct in representing the lions in repose, and in attitudes which, although not identical, are similar. If they had been erect, or in action, or showed a considerable variety of attitude, we might have admired the individual figures, but the architectural effect to which they contribute would have been marred. They would, indeed, have 'killed' the monument. As it is, they are the finest portion of it, the hand of a great master being visible in all their lineaments. Never before has the king of beasts been so nobly and so truthfully treated in sculpture, and it is difficult to know which to admire most—the vitality of this creation or its majesty. Perhaps it is on its majesty that the imagination first seizes. We are impressed with the effect of size, for the figures are nearly 20 ft. long and about 11 ft. in height. And if the outline is grand, still more so is the expression of the lions. The royalty of the beast is shown in their faces, as they look far forward into space, regardless of the pignies who stroll about their pedestals and wonder at their greatness. But as the sight becomes familiar we begin to note the amazing vitality of the figures, and this is the character of the work which leaves upon us the most abiding impression. The animal seems to live—his mouth ready to pant, his flank to quiver, every muscle to be instinct with the possibility of action; the very tail, curled round by his side, to be waiting for the chance of lashing out. The way in which this appearance of vitality is combined with a statuesque repose is very masterly.

"It will be seen that our criticism is only eulogy. We confess it. We know of no finer work than this of Sir Edwin Landseer, which belongs to the same class, and we but echo the general feeling of London this day when we express our pride in its being a national possession."—*Times*.

"It is hardly necessary to say that Sir Edwin Landseer's reputation as a delineator of animals stands high in every city in Europe where, by the aid of eminent engravers, his designs have been sown broadcast. Rubens and Snyders threw fire and energy into hunting-pieces, but their lions, leopards, and dogs want the individual character, so to speak, which our English painter's compositions possess. Moreover, Sir Edwin's contours are distinguished by unerring accuracy and never-failing grace; qualities, in fact, not to be found in an equal degree in the works of any modern artist, and which are only surpassed by the more famous monuments of sculpture from the ablest of Greek chisels. No wonder if Sir Edwin has arrived so near perfection in the realisation of animal life. He early took the course recommended by the old painter Leonardo da Vinci. He mastered the anatomy of his favourite subjects, and, without anticipating the commission to make lions for the Nelson Column, he early made special studies of the lion's structure. When, therefore, the time came to complete the memorial to Lord Nelson, the Government of the day, finding no sculptor who had produced testimonials of distinctive talent in the treatment of animals, turned to the painters, and to one who had given a thousand proofs of genius and power in the very direction sought. It might have seemed a contradiction to employ a painter upon a sculptor's work; but in old times painters were for the most part sculptors, and even architects, and pursued the three professions with happy success. How far the Government of the Earl of Derby was wise in its choice the moment has arrived to decide. At mid-day, the artist and a few friends, Baron Marochetti among them, arrived in Trafalgar-square and gave the signal for removing the canvas coverings from the four objects of so much expectation and solicitude. Not a cheer was heard, not a speech was made; the whole affair was as business-like as apathy could make it. The uncovering was the signal for the small boys to climb up the mouldings of the base and test the materials with their nails. The bronze stood the test very well. Then came the mature criticisms of the bystanders, who had never thought, perhaps, much about lions up till Jan. 31, 1867. A plumber and glazier confidently remarked that he had never seen a lion's forearm without muscle before. Sir Edwin, who was standing hard by, might have explained why the noble brute's forearms lie so calm. They simply have nothing to do. Then came an elderly lady, who complained that the brute had no claws. The reason given to the plumber might have silenced the old lady. The lion is in a state of repose, and hence his claws are put away. Sir Edwin should know the British public as well as he knows a lion if he would achieve a downright vulgar popularity. However, let us do justice to the popular taste. A sturdy mechanic, leaning upon a post, expressed himself in a way that we indorse with pleasure. He said that the lions were grand, and that they had lineaments like a miniature—possibly he meant that they had breadth combined with minutie. If we cast about for terms to express our own opinions we should hardly find words happier and truer, as we think, to express the true character of Sir Edwin Landseer's lions now put up in Trafalgar-square. Some artists have a conceit to make it appear that their works are produced with ease. It is said of Guido that, after he had bestowed infinite pains in elaborating every feature and form in his masterpieces of painting, he would take a brush and impart to the canvas a few reckless, spirited touches to create the impression of haste and indifference. Spontaneity is the word, we believe, which is said to express that feeling which men of great genius suggest by their productions. We all know that Sir Edwin has not hurried himself over the lions; and, looking at them as they now repose on their pedestals, we might feel at a loss to understand how they came to occupy so many of the best years of his life. His lions have that look of ease and slightness in treatment which artists affect. The strokes of the modelling-stick are very few; but there they are, all in the right place, each subservient to the grand total, the perfect whole, which every great master in painting or in sculpture aims to produce. Beyond doubt, Sir Edwin can do nothing vulgar or ill in any sense; but it might have been a question whether the sublime came within his grasp. We have seen him toying with poodles, and parrots, and lap-dogs, and grappling with blood-hounds; but until now he has either had no occasion, or not cared to take occasion, to show how seriously he could approach the loftier conditions of great art. Either he has now produced something far beyond the ordinary commonplace of the British sculpture-gallery in these lions, or he has perpetrated a great wrong in occupying so prominent a place by works which do not possess the elements of true greatness and mastery. We believe his lions to be worthy of the place and the purpose for which they were designed. We trace in them a simple character, a calm dignity, quite new in English art. We take it that they possess features which only could have come from the hand of a great master. We believe that Phidias himself might not altogether have despised certain strokes which describe the manes and flanks of the animals where the bones, flesh, veins, and integuments had room for expression. And in spite of the somewhat apathetic character of those assembled in the square, we were deceived if the majority were not really impressed (fascinated is perhaps the word) by the bearing and the brute majesty which Sir Edwin has given to his creations in bronze."

"To see the Nelson monument at last complete, after having so long served as a by-word for neglect and delay, is a surprise. It is, however, something to congratulate ourselves upon that the undertaking is actually out of the hands of the artists—architects, sculptors, and the great painter-sculptor who has put the finishing stroke to the work; for, whether the whole monument commands universal

approval or not, all must agree that anything is better than an unfinished monument to one of the greatest of a nation's heroes. Even at this moment, when the public gratification welcomes the representative animal so nobly presented, we cannot forget the dreary scenes that for years disfigured the finest site in Europe—the column that grew so slowly through the soot-grimed scaffolding, and at last stopped for want of sap, a dwarf short of its proper height by 40 ft., till in despair the capital was placed upon it, and the statue made its appearance on the top. Compared with that period of crippled growth, the last eight years which Sir Edwin Landseer has employed in his part of the work have been felt, not as a neglectful delay, but rather as an impatience under great expectations. Some piquancy was lent to these by the doubt as to what a great painter would be able to do in a line of art so entirely out of his method; but that there was reason for the faith in a great artist, and that we have not waited in vain, has been witnessed in the crowds of admirers who have surrounded Landseer's lions, looking up at them with wonder and awe, as if every moment they expected the monsters to rise and walk from their pedestals. For our own part, it is this lifelike look, more than the size of the work, that gives so fine a character to the figures; and one could scarcely help crying out 'Roar, roar!' as Donatello did when he cried 'Speak, speak!' to his statue. A sculptor never achieves more than when he thus creates out of the clay and animates the dead stone and bronze. Landseer may well rest satisfied with the kind of tribute that has been paid to his work by the voice of the people, and we question whether anything in modern sculpture has produced a deeper conviction of the power of art in the popular mind. Canova's two colossal lions on the monument to Pope Rezzonico, in St. Peter's, are asleep, though undoubtedly the grandest work that the somewhat sickly genius of the sculptor ever led him to attempt. They are, however, considerably smaller than our Landseer's lions. Thorwaldsen's famous lion, carved out of the living rock at Lucerne, is a dying animal, and dying without a spark of courage, which was quite a mistake of the artist, for, as all lion-hunters tell us, he is most terrible in his death throes. Landseer has seized the fine point of the animal in expressing his terrible power in repose, or rather in reserve; for he looks far away over the sea, watchful and ready. In repeating this figure as the one best expressive of the intention of the monument, without attempting to vary the artistic effect by choosing different attitudes, Sir Edwin only obeyed a just feeling for the general 'keeping' of the monument, which, however bizarre it may be in style as a whole, is certainly classic, and therefore to be treated after that manner. It would be ridiculous to suppose that an artist who could model such a lion as we see could not have made three others of the same blood. Still it remains to be said that Landseer has repeated a picturesque and naturalistic lion where Greek art would have required an ideal and conventional form. Donatello, Gian Bologna, or any of the great masters of the Renaissance, who, like our Landseer, were great naturalists in their art, would have varied their lions. The fault, if it be one, is not chargeable to Sir Edwin Landseer, for he could model no other than a natural lion, and he may fairly trust to the naturalness of his work for any suggestions of the ideal. The misfortune all along has been in this, as in all our national undertakings in art, that the one capable mind was not at hand for the whole work, and thus all unity and completeness of beauty have been missed. As a consequence we have an obvious defect of this nature, which has been very generally remarked in the disproportion between the colossal lions and the column with its statue, which are made to appear too small and insignificant from loss of height. Confession is good for the soul; and we can never hope to be absolved from our past sins in art—our monumental sins, unhappily be it said—until we promise to amend our ways. We are indebted to Sir Edwin Landseer as much for this example of good art as for the hope he has aroused in the future and the inspiration his work must exercise amongst artists. His Nelson lions are an immense improvement upon the Wellington horses and all that studio stock, and the sculptors ought to be deeply grateful to him for the lesson. For the public, we desire to recognise the earnest and devoted exercise of his genius in the successful accomplishment of a task which must have taxed his strength and energies to the utmost, and to thank him for having given us at least one public work of art of which the nation may justly be proud as an honour to English art."—*Daily News*.

#### FINE ARTS.

##### THE GENERAL WATER-COLOUR EXHIBITION AT THE DUDLEY GALLERY.

A VERY excellent plan, and one most worthy of imitation, has been this year adopted by this society. A couple of days were set aside for the critics before that miscalled day, "the private view," on which, as a rule, the gallery is more crowded by the public than at any other time. Last year the critics had a day given them; but the present plan is even better, for it gives a fairer chance of a quiet visit when those art-critics who take two or three ladies to assist them in forming a calm and deliberate opinion of the pictures have accomplished their task. It is obviously unfair that critics, who have no right to profit by decisions that "This is such a duck!" and "That is so lovely!" should be enabled to hear them half across the gallery.

We wish that we could give as much praise to the society on other points. It is to be regretted that the desire to make a selling, and therefore paying, exhibition has induced the committee to admit about three times as many pictures as the gallery will conveniently hold. The first thing which strikes the visitor on entering is the utter impossibility of seeing the collection properly without groveling on the cocoanut-matting or mounting on steps to the ceiling. The pictures are so closely packed as to suggest that, in some instances, they have been admitted chiefly because they exactly fitted a vacant space. The result is a sense of weariness and despair, which seizes on the visitor before he has had time to open his catalogue.

Taken as a whole, although some remarkable works by eminent artists have been secured as an attraction, the exhibition is far below the excellence of previous years. We miss some artists whose works adorned the walls of the two former exhibitions, and we are struck by the number of very inferior works to be found this year. Without any wish to be ungrateful, we are compelled to express an opinion that too much space has been given to lady-exhibitors. Some ladies—Miss Ellen Edwards or Miss Coleman, for instance—can hold their own in any gallery, without appealing to gallantry for a place.

But where the space is limited, as it is here, it is to be regretted that so much of it should be monopolised by feminine works, especially when the ladylike Exhibition of Female Artists is available, and would, no doubt, be glad of the contributions of Miss Lucette Barker and the other fair artists who patronise the Dudley so largely.

We are sorry, too, to observe a growing tendency on the part of members of the committee to appropriate too much space for their own works. Out of the 678 pictures enumerated in the catalogue about 113 are by members of the committee. Some of the best things in the gallery are among the 113, we admit; but it is a large share of a "general" exhibition which, with the small space it has to dispose of, ought not to admit more than 400 works.

The gallery is strongest in landscapes, and chief among these must be reckoned some remarkable works by Mr. North. "An Old Bowling-green" (264) is a marvellously truthful realisation; "Little Mol" (583), a charming idyl; while "Snow, Jan. 5, 1867" (558), is a vivid realisation of our last taste of winter. Mr. Vicat Cole, in "Holmby Hill" (274), gives us such sunlight on a sandy bank as few artists but he could paint. Mr. C. P. Knight's "Criccieth Bay" (145) is worthy of his repute, and Mr. Burton's "Old Cottage" (559) is fine work. Mr. Dillon gives us some Eastern views of great merit; Mr. Way some Alpine scenes; and Mr. C. J. Lewis a few foreign sketches, which show all his excellence of treatment and colour. Mr. Poynter, who also exhibits a figure subject, the "Snake-Charm" (586), contributes some faithful notes of effect, of which none is better than "Housetops after Rain" (36). Mr. Goodwin

maintains his reputation for careful and conscientious realisation in "Near Arundel," (22), "Red Houses" (206), and "Moonrise" (224); as do also Mr. Mawley, in his "Storm Clearing Off" (161) and "Early Spring" (454); Mr. Walton, in his "Harvesting" (42) and "Evelyn Woods" (172); Mr. Ditchfield, in his "Glade" (343) and "Scene of Peace" (239); and Mr. Arthur Severn, in his "Moonlight on the Seine" (248) and "Bawzarrah" (61).

Mr. Walters, one of the most natural of our water-colourists, sends two admirable examples, "By the Thames Side" (345) and "A Barley-Field" (353). Mr. Stocks exhibits "Fulshaw" (170) and a "Weir on the Wye" (251), both marked by great merit; and Mr. Earle has no less than five pictures, among which it is hard to select the best, all are so good.

Several names familiar to the public as those of wood-draughtsmen will be found attached to pictures of considerable excellence. Mr. Keely Halsewell exhibits a clever "On the Skirts of a Forest" (92); Mr. M'Quoid several elaborate sketches, of which "An Old Timber-yard" (542) is perhaps one of the best; and Mr. W. Crane a view of "Morton Hall" (377); while Mr. Mason Jackson, in his "Tantallon Castle" (187) and "Norham" (341), proves that his devotion to wood has not injured his appreciation of colour.

A very carefully studied "Coast Line" (51) by Mr. Butterworth, an admirable "Summer Evening" (393) by Mr. W. Hull, Mr. H. Moore's "Whitby" (214), Mr. J. C. Moore's "Olive-Trees" (97) and "Florence" (226), Mr. Glennie's "Marshes" (152), Mr. Richardson's "Ferry" (124), Mr. Aston's "Alum Bay" (43), Mr. Livett's "Summer" (56), and Mr. Holloway's "Cheyne-walk" (110) are among the pictures which will console the visitor for the trouble of going over much that is bad. Our space will not allow us to do them justice, nor will it permit us to do more than allot a passing word of commendation to "Perran Sands" (109), by Mr. Hall; the "Metidja" (132) of Mr. Binyon, the "Sunshine and Rain" (188) of Mr. Nicholl, Mr. Johnson's "Sardis" (303), Mr. Storey's "Solitude" (569), or the spirited Scotch landscapes of Mr. Paton. We must also note with praise Mrs. Naftel's "Cobo Bay" (183), Miss Beale's "Glen" (428), and Miss Keys's forcible "Twilight on Dartmoor" (104). Mr. May's "Wreck" (392) is poetically treated. Mr. Field Talfourd appears to better advantage than usual in water colour; and Mr. Donaldson succeeds so admirably in his "Whitby" (569), that he would do well to confine himself to landscape, for his figure-subjects look like copies of inferior illuminations. Mr. Haddon has absurdly exaggerated the size of the rising moon in his "At Caversham" (194). "White Leaf Cross, Bucks" (611), a view of a hillside cutting, after the fashion of the famous "White Horse," brings to notice Mr. Thelwall, an artist whose name we do not remember to have met with before, but who shows considerable promise and much executive ability.

Mr. Madox Brown is the most noted among the exhibitors of figure-subjects. His "Cordelia's Portion" (249) has much of his excellence, and some of his faults. The figure of Lear appears to us almost identical with the Jacob in the French Gallery, and Mr. Brown, in attempting to tell the story forcibly, has given us too much melodramatic action; but the colour is very fine, and the heads are well conceived and powerfully rendered. Mr. Calderon's "Belle Yseult" (637) is a charming head, but does not seem to us to realise the heroine of the old legend. Mr. Marcus Stone's "Fichu" is a pleasing study, gracefully posed and agreeable in colour.

Mr. Simeon Solomon, if we may judge from the "Myrtle Blossoms" (177) here exhibited, is recovering from the attack of Burne-Jonesism that has so long destroyed the effect of his best works. A purer and more natural colour was all that was wanted to make his drawing admirable. If he is still wavering and cannot make up his mind to quit the "ugly" school, we trust a glance at Mr. Bateman's brown-lipped, blue-skinned beauties in this gallery will hasten his decision. Should they effect this desirable end we shall not so much resent the admission of these poor productions, which seem to have been studied in a charnel during a time of plague. Miss Sparta's pictures are not so bad in colour, but are almost equally faulty in drawing.

Mr. Linton comes out in force. "Music" (166) is a noble work; but we could wish the artist had selected a better model for the man, whose face is a little weak. "The Bravo" (208) is a vigorous study, and "The Camellia" (423) a composition full of grace and poetry. We wonder Mr. Linton has not been secured by the Old Water-Colour Society, which stands sorely in need of good figure-men.

Mr. Marks exhibits (besides a small landscape) a humorous picture of "Jack o' Lantern" (62), an old boy busily engaged in furbishing up a wonderful Mediaeval lantern, a combination of brass and glass eminently calculated to cast more shadows than lights. Mr. Leslie's "Little Bit of Scandal" (210) is charming in colour, but the position is slightly lacking in grace. An easier attitude would have told the story equally well. Mr. Pasquier's "Critics" (126) is an admirable little work, good in arrangement and agreeable in tone. Mr. Nowlan's "Last Rose of Summer" (48) is an excellent piece of painting; and the same may be said of Mr. Bayes's "Cleopatra" (639), though the head has been too obviously suggested by Mr. Millais's illustration to "The Dream of Fair Women" in the pictorial Tennyson. Mr. Fitzgerald is as fanciful and as brilliant in colour as ever in his two fairy subjects—"The Concert" (510), in which the delicate elves are joining the choir of feathered warblers; and "The Storm" (659), in which a tiny fay is taking shelter from a shower, two small goblins holding a leaf over her head by way of *parapluie*.

Miss A. Claxton makes a very pleasing picture of "Moonshine" (196), which represents a little child who has slipped away from her sleeping nurse to encounter the ghosts of gay ladies and gallant cavaliers ascending the staircase in couples. The picture is cleverly arranged and well painted; but Miss Claxton appears to have discovered some infallible recipe for painting ghosts, and, as a consequence, we have had a run on spectres lately in her pictures. She should remember that "the ghost in the stereoscope" soon lost its charm by being overdone.

Mr. Halliday, an unfrequent exhibitor, has "A Lady Spinning" (198) on the walls. It is a pity that he was not more happy in his choice of a model; but the work is sound and conscientious. Mr. Yeames's "Il Sonnetto" (485) is a clever little picture; and Mr. Jopling's "Lady Maggie" (289) is one of the best things we have seen of his. Mr. Rossiter gives much finish and grace to the figure in No. 220; and Mr. Whiteford has thrown considerable character into "A Search" (648). We have not space to do more than mention Mr. Lawson, Mr. Marsh, Miss Russell, and Mr. Dudley, who all have good work on the walls. Mr. E. Hull exhibits a spirited "Christmas Eve" (499), a delightful "Great Malvern" (622), and a group of "Chrysanthemums" (223\*) very true to nature. Miss Coleman is also represented by some flower and fruit studies—notably by "Chestrute" (628). Mr. Perry exhibits some capital horses, as does also Mr. Beavis. Mr. Aldridge's "Still Life in Japan" (378) is a humorous notion, and well painted; and Mr. Pilleau's "Elephants" (234)—he has also some fine landscapes on the walls—is a capital bit of animal-painting.

CEPHALONIA has been visited by an earthquake, which, we fear, has been attended with serious consequences, both to life and property. The shock was felt at Zante and Patras.

A CURIOUS CASE—"Kearns v. Storke"—involving a charge of wrongful confinement in a lunatic asylum at Charenton, and which has been occupying the Court of Queen's Bench for several days, came to an abrupt conclusion on Wednesday. It was then announced that an arrangement had been come to. The terms of this arrangement are said to be that the plaintiff is to have £500 down, an annuity of £100, and all her costs in this suit as between attorney and client. The defendant was a son of the late Serjeant Storke, and the plaintiff an old family servant.

MR. BRIGHT presided on Friday night week at a meeting in the Free-trade Hall, Manchester. The object of the assembly being to hear an address from The O'Donoghue on the Irish question, and the necessity of union between the Reformers of Ireland and England. The great hall was densely crowded, a large number of prominent Reformers being present. The O'Donoghue's address was most warmly received.

THE DEATH OF NATHANIEL PARKER WILLIS, the well known American writer, is announced. Mr. Willis has been for some time past in failing health. Years ago no American was better known in English society, and, although he may have committed some violations of good taste in his writings, no American traveller ever more thoroughly admired the old country.



## THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

"WHAT is going to happen?" I must have heard this question put a hundred times during the last few days, but I have heard no satisfactory answer; so well has the Conservative Government kept their secret. I do not believe that there are ten men out of the Cabinet who know what is going to happen. There was a little slip in Lord Derby's speech which seemed to indicate that Mr. Disraeli will, on Monday night next, bring in a reform bill. His Lordship spoke of "a measure;" but I fancy that this was only a slip of the tongue. "A measure!" It is an equivocal word. It does not necessarily mean a bill; but, if it be a bill that is coming, it may not be a reform bill, but a bill to enable the Government to take preparatory steps for a reform bill. The general opinion certainly is that Disraeli has no bill ready for Monday night. "If he has," it is asked, "why all this secrecy?" There may be reasons for it if he does not mean to bring in a bill; but, if he has a bill to bring forward, one would think he would be glad to say so. I suspect that he means to proceed by resolution, and in that way ascertain the feelings and the temper of the House.

The bill of fare which the Government has presented is a very extraordinary document. It contains business enough for two Sessions, and some of our politicians say that this list is of itself a proof that the Government cannot intend to introduce a reform bill. How can they, it is asked, hope to carry a quarter of these measures if the House is to be called upon to discuss a reform bill? And certainly if a reform bill should make its appearance a quarter of these important measures cannot be carried. Ministers have given notice of about a dozen bills, all of the utmost importance. Now, the House sits generally about one hundred days in a Session. These measures, then, alone would, after deducting the time spent in Committee of Supply, absorb all the time that the House can have at its command. But, further, it must be remembered that a great portion of this time is not under the control of the Government. On Tuesdays it is seldom that Government can get on any of its measures; and Wednesdays and Fridays are not much more profitable. Clearly, the Government cannot contemplate carrying these measures—and a reform bill too.

The Adullamites have been dining together as the guests of Earl Grosvenor. This looks as if the Earl really means to attempt to make and keep together a third party. Nothing trustworthy has oozed out as to the proceedings at this dinner; but on Wednesday it was rumoured that the cave had determined to support Lord Derby's Government, and even, if opportunity offered, to take office therein. But of course this determination, if it were made, must be limited and bounded by circumstances: the safety of the gentlemen's seats, for example. I am not sure that Lord Elcho would be impregnable in Haddingtonshire if he were openly to go over to the Conservatives. The Scotch farmers are daring men. In Aberdeenshire last year they broke away from their landlords and defeated Sir James Elphinstone by more than a thousand votes. Scotch farmers, you see, have long leases. Mr. Marsh, of Salisbury, one of the men of the cave, has changed his tone. He will now consent to vote for a £7 rental franchise. I suspect that, all after-dinner resolutions notwithstanding, this cabal of the cave, when we get to work, will prove a rope of sand.

Captain Mayne Reed gave his entertainment for the benefit of the suffering poor of the metropolis on Monday evening last, the performance having been postponed for a week in consequence, I believe, of indisposition. The Captain had a most fashionable and intelligent audience, which, however, I should have been glad to see more numerous. The inclement state of the weather probably kept many persons at home who would otherwise have been present. I hope these parties did not forget to take tickets, and so serve the kindly purpose the entertainer had in view. The Captain recited the several pieces in the programme with much taste and spirit, some of them being delivered in a really most effective manner. Mr. F. B. Chatterton, of Drury Lane Theatre, who happened to be present, kindly supplemented the performance by playing the "Carnival of Venice" very tastefully upon the harp. I have not heard the result, in a pecuniary sense, of the gallant Captain's efforts; but hope it was something at least respectable in amount.

As everybody who can will be going to the world's fair at Paris during the ensuing summer, a good guide to Paris and the Exhibition, sold at a reasonable price, is a matter of the utmost importance. I am very glad, therefore, that Messrs. Black, of Edinburgh, have undertaken the task of supplying this desideratum, and have issued a "Guide to Paris and the Exhibition of 1867," edited by David Thomas Ansted, M.A., F.R.S., &c. This handy little volume contains maps and full descriptive details of all places of note in the French capital, as well as an account of the Exhibition building and other particulars which cannot fail to be useful to excursionists.

Mr. Eugène Rimmel is the acknowledged high priest of art as applied to the lesser and yet important amenities of life; and, I suppose, has attained his success by acting on the rule that what is worth doing at all is worth doing well. As your youthful readers at least will not forget, the great carnival of love, St. Valentine's Day, is approaching; and, of course, Mr. Rimmel's inventive faculties have been exercised, and successfully, in producing some "nice things" for the occasion. I have several of his valentines before me, and must say that they all display much taste and refined judgment in their design and execution. Here is none of the old vulgar style of thing. There are no gentlemen in impossibly blue coats and strangelingly-tight pantaloons; no ladies in flaring red dresses (guiltless even of a suspicion of crinoline) and coal-scuttle bonnets. Mr. Rimmel's valentines consist of magnificently-cut lace borders and screens to chastely-coloured and tastefully-printed floral designs and emblematical figures, such as "Rose (Beauty)," "Carnation (pure Love)," and so forth, with appropriate sentiments to each. One little gem, intended to be presented by a mother to a child, is composed of feathers, grasses, shells, insects, &c., and is at once a token of affection and a lesson in object-language, and, on a small scale, in natural history. Another is a pretty little locket, resting on a velvet cushion, and bearing a medallion of Shakspeare on one side and the motto "for all time" and an appropriate emblem on the other. These pretty trifles—and yet though trifles pleasing ones—are all Mr. Rimmel's own design, and are delightfully redolent of some of his choicest perfumes.

So the managers of the theatres and the proprietors of the leading music-halls have agreed to settle their differences! The Dramatic Association, representing one party, and the Music-hall Association, the other, have come to an arrangement with a view to the passing of a legislative enactment that shall "define their respective rights." This is all very well as respects these two belligerent parties, who may arrange their rights—when they obtain them—how they please. But, in the midst of this pleasing occupation of arranging rights, it is not, perhaps, out of place to mention that the public have some rights in the matter of dramatic freedom that are at least deserving of some attention, and which I hope they will obtain.

## THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

Somebody has taken the rather unusual course of writing to point out that this Lounger's corner contained, last week, the word "very" eight times. It is "very" true, and I am "very" sorry, and four of the eight might with advantage have been omitted. It is also "very" certain that my critic might "very" truly have found a worse fault with me—namely, that the writing was languid and thin, as will sometimes happen, alas! But I must point out to him that this "corner" is not a continuous article, but a group of paragraphs. What is said of *Macmillan* is strictly apart from what is said of the *Cornhill*, for instance; and it is hardly fair—certainly not amiable when a word is used to emphasise praise—to "carry over" a word from one paragraph to another. But, besides, this is not an article or essay at all. It is expressly a Lounger's talk, and not only permits, but presupposes, that any little idiosyncrasies of manner which might appear in the conversation of a well-read, intelligent person who was addressing another, with his

dressing-gown on and his legs up, shall be admissible. The frequent repetition of an emphatic adverb is a faulty, half-feminine trick of manner; but there is nothing offensive and nothing erroneous in it. On the whole, when anyone finds fault with me, I fall back upon the old reflection, "Ah! if he only knew all I know that is wrong of myself!"

Outsiders who think, as I once used to do, how delightful it must be to have all the magazines to look over, may be amused to learn that it is one of the most trying of tasks; partly because it is like hurried excessive wine-tasting, and partly from the difficulty of finding a sufficient stock of qualifying words—adverbs and adjectives.

One of the best of our reviews, and with that essential merit upon which I am never tired of insisting—a character of its own—is the *Contemporary*; and it is certainly the handsomest in get-up. The present number contains a clever but rather contemptuous paper on our Tune-books. Then there is a paper on our public schools; and I quite agree with the writer of it as to the desirableness of retaining some of them in London itself. Of the articles on "Apollonius of Tyana," "Eugénie de Guérin," and the rest, I can only express my hearty admiration. But the poem by Dean Alexander (upon whom I have long had my eye) must receive just this one word of separate praise—I like it much. The second of the essays on "Robert Browning," contains much really fine critical discrimination; but this candid author will forgive me for saying (what I hope to have another opportunity of amplifying) that he has not yet got to the bottom of the subject of Browning's "pantheistic" tendencies. But, what is more serious, he is incorrect in his account of Browning's "Christmas Eve." Had he really that apocalyptic and most awful poem before him at the time of writing? The thought—

Why, where's the need of temple, when the walls  
Of the world are that?

an inevitable thought in the shape in which it was once spoken at a certain Samaritan well-side, and often spoken by certain divine poets—more commonly called prophets—does indeed appear in "Christmas Eve" in a certain shape (pp. 16 to 22). But that it "dominates" is seriously incorrect; for it is introduced historically as a phase of thought to be rebuked, and only so. First, it is rebuked by the Vision of the Holy One who had been at the little chapel; and, lastly, by what occurs at the Göttingen lecture-room; and then it is, in terms, disowned and repented of by the poet speaking in his own person. At Göttingen the awful Form does not go inside the lecture-room, though the poet stands at the door ajar, listening, holding by the extreme edge of the sacred vesture, which he is surprised to find himself left with:—

Alone! I am left once more alone!

That is, the Form is not in sight—he is "alone" (p. 46),

Save for the Garment's extreme fold,  
Abandoned still to bless my hold.  
Alone, beside the entrance door  
Of a sort of . . . college.

Then the poet catches up bits of the lecture; but the Vesture, by a movement of withdrawal, forbids him to "enter the exhausted air-bell of the critic" (p. 53). After this come some words of powerful expostulation—more deeply pathetic than anything Browning ever wrote beside, in my opinion—with the professor and his followers. But, disregarding the warning movement of the Vesture, the poet gives way to "a mild indifference" and lingers in the doorway (p. 66-67). But the moment he has come to his "lazy" conclusion, what happens? It will be observed on page 62 that the poet has now wholly missed the Form itself, so that he asks, in wonder—

Can it be that He stays inside?

Then he feels for the "hem," and scarcely knows whether he holds it still or not—

Is the Vesture left me to commune with?

In his "lazy tolerance" he does not know. But on page 62 he finds out, with agony, that the Form is gone, and that he has actually missed his hold of the Vesture:—

'Twas the horrible storm begun afresh—  
The black night caught me in his mesh,  
Whirled me up, and flung me prone,  
I was left on the college-step alone.  
I looked, and saw there, ever fleeting,  
Far, far away, the receding gesture  
And loosing of the lessening Vesture,  
Sweet forward from my stupid hand,  
While I watched my foolish heart expand  
In the lazy glow . . .

And now the poet expresses a positive conclusion which is the very opposite of the idea which this critic says "dominates" the poem:—

Needs must, then, be one way, our chief  
Best way of worship: let me strive  
To find it, &c. . . .  
This constitutes my earthly care:  
God's is above it, and distinct.

In other words, the Judge must judge, and He only. If I must not, as I must not, "presume his bolts to throw," it is implied, as a correlate, that I must not do the other thing. The poem then winds up with words that are express:—

Meanwhile, in the still recurring fear  
Lest myself, at unawares, be found,  
While attacking the choice of my neighbours round,  
Without my own made—I choose here.

The "here" being the little chapel:—

I put up pencil and join chorus  
To Hezibah tune, without further apology,  
The last five verses of the third section  
Of the seventeenth hymn in Whitfield's collection;  
To conclude with the doxology.

I hope this is plain enough? Page 69 is a clear expression of the poet's opinion that, though the Judge is a "universalist," any one individual among the judged has his own strict obligations towards the truth. The reviewer was not bound to characterise "Easter Day," but it may be described in a single line. The main thought which in "Butler's Analogy" we meet with in the graven basso-relievo of the logician, we find in "Easter Day" is the alto-relievo of poetic imagery. See from page 83 onwards. To pass on. Although I entirely agree with what this writer says in the two foot-notes about Shakspeare, he has not shaken my opinion that moralising Art is no Art at all, but a mischievous, confusing, and, in the end, corrupting blunder. Milton had an ethical purpose; he set himself the task to "assert Eternal providence and justify," &c. But did he do it? Notoriously not. He muddled the theological currents, and made everybody sympathise with the rebel chief. Shelley has even hinted (in the "Defence of Poetry") that Milton had an *arrière pensée*. But take Shakspeare. He did not set himself the task. But he did it. He simply did his work as an artist, and gave us in "King Lear" a better theodicy than is to be found in all Milton and Wordsworth added together—as I believe this critic would admit if he had once seen that awful tragedy presented—with, say, Mr. Macready for Lear, and Miss Faucit for Cordelia. I might instance Imogen or Desdemona, but Cordelia is the divinest image in Shakspeare. Such images were, on Wordsworth's own showing, his favourite company. I gratefully acknowledge his moral power, and Milton's too. But, notoriously, Wordsworth would have written dramas if he could. And I say the best moralist is not the man who tells me something; but, in the long run, he who makes me cry with that angel-led man in Richter, sinking down in tears in the starry spaces, "Angel, angel, let me lie down and die, for insufferable is the glory of God's house!" Briefly, it is a sign of weakness, not of superior ethical power, when we cannot take moral truth in the highest form in which it can be put. I cannot conceive anything more profoundly to the purpose than the case of "Othello," or "Lear," or "Cymbeline;" either of these contains passages which might "minister to lubricity of thought;" and yet, what words can express the part they have played in the education of England, and particularly of the very highest minds? The truth is plain and brief—the artist ought, like all other men, to be a good man, after his kind. If he is such a man, his work will have an ethical significance, or soul; but no artist can do the best work in the mood in which he is conscious of

any ethical aim. If he is conscious, he betrays the consciousness, and then he offends us, and breaks the flowing curve of emotional beauty by hard lines of proposition. The sons of Belial may think they can get "a rise" out of this view of Art; but shall we knuckle down to them? No; the power that made the laws of art will take care of their working for us, the sons of Belial notwithstanding.

*Blackwood* apologises for its misstatements about Mr. Potter, and now gives him "a good character." The political and quasi-political articles are interesting; but the little story, "Brownlows," is the attraction, natural and fresh as it seems to me to be. Mr. Dallas's "Gay Science" receives one more "back-hander"—a friendly one; but still what I should consider a severe criticism if it were applied to a book of mine.

Messrs. *Blackwood* are about to issue an illustrated edition of the works of George Eliot, in sixpenny numbers. No. 1, of "Adam Bede," will appear on March 1. Mr. J. D. Cooper will, I am glad to see, have charge of the engravings.

In *Macmillan*, Mrs. Norton resumes "Old Sir Douglas," and most of us will be glad to see this hint that she is better in health. There is an agreeable and well-thought article, evidently by Mr. Masson, upon the late Alexander Smith. Of course, every "organ" has just now something to say upon our Army—*Macmillan* and *Blackwood* among the rest. The *Pall Mall Gazette* "began it;" but when and how is it to end? I think most people will agree with the view just expressed by Mr. Mill—that we want a competent army of defence; but that all idea of a force fit for aggression must be rejected.

I have great pleasure in speaking, again, a rapid word of praise for the *Intellectual Observer*. Probably there is not a magazine published which more thoroughly keeps to its function, and fulfils its own pretensions. Its coloured illustrations must be the envy of a good many rivals, I think.

Once a Week presents no new characteristics, the month's issues containing the usual supply of quiet, good stories for reading in country parsonages, anecdote, local descriptions, pleasant verses, and a great many woodcuts—the latter not so carefully executed as they sometimes are, the last two numbers being below the usual high mark of the magazine.

In the *Sunday Magazine* Mr. Pinwell contributes a drawing, "Auntie's Lesson," which is really almost a picture in the high sense. It is so truthfully conceived and so full of quiet, serious, moral beauty that I only wish he'd give us more of the same sort, with a little more physical health and beauty of outline. Miss Tytler's story of "The Huguenot Family in the English Village" is worthy of the author of "Citoyenne Jacqueline," and that is saying much. With the greater part of what is said by the author of "Luther the Singer" I heartily agree, down to about the end of page 331. There, I would simply observe that if a given writing has anything to tell us, the question which that writing "means" does involve the question, what is "true?" I am quite content with the beautiful theory or Ethic of Translation stated by this fine writer in his first part.

The author of "Guild Court" in *Good Words* is so much delighting me that I shall go off into "verys" again if I don't take care. Recently he has been developing, or rather disclosing, a new quality for which there is no handy word but humour, though it seems too delicate a thing for that word to be applicable. You could hardly speak of the humour of a snowdrop, could you? Yet there is a translucent simile in the man's intelligence which—no, I give it up for the present, but only for the present. I shall find a name, and a definition too, in time. Dr. Macleod's tale of "The Starling" contains what one has no hesitation in calling true broad humour. The kirk "meenister" insists that an old soldier of his kirk shall kill a pet starling because, being hung outside the cottage on the "Sabbath," it has made the children in the street noisy. The sergeant refuses, like a man, and there is a storm in a puddle—I mean a kirk session—about it. The situation, as described, is truly pathetic as well as funny.

In the *Argosy* there is "Robert Falconer"—overflowing with beautiful touches of character and fine thought; it is *unmanageably* full, indeed. I don't understand Robert's notion on page 166. There was a point of technical theology (which he and his grannie must have had at their fingers' ends) which, till it was cleared away, stood dead in the path of any such scheme as his. What was needed was, according to that, not any amount of individual goodness piled up, but the payment of an *infinite* price for (so-called) infinite shortcomings. Robert and his grandame might have anticipated or shut down this idea; but they could not possibly have proceeded for a moment upon any hypothesis which ignored its existence. I have looked at this most carefully, and cannot see my way out of the difficulty. "Larry Geoghegan; or, a Drive with a Dublin Carman," and "Which will he Marry?" are both "very" amusing. The little poem by "S. A. D. I." is charming; the other poem, however, is—the other thing.

## THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The event of the past week is the production of Mr. T. W. Robertson's new drama, "Shadow-tree Shaft." Mr. Robertson's remarkable success as a writer of original comedies, excited an unusual amount of curiosity concerning his first venture in a new line of dramatic literature, and the PRINCESS'S THEATRE was crowded on Wednesday night with a most enthusiastic and appreciative audience, among whom were to be counted nearly every author, journalist, and artist of any reputation now in London. The piece is melodramatic in its character, and in some degree sensational in its effects, but probably not to the extent anticipated by the bulk of the audience. Indeed, it was generally supposed that the recent frightful colliery accidents had suggested the *motif* of the piece, whereas it was written and placed in Mr. Vining's hands nearly two years ago. The plot turns upon an extraordinary resemblance existing between Sir Walter Kenyon (Mr. Charles Verner) and Michael Woodyard (Mr. Forrester) a coal-miner. Sir Walter is proscribed for some political offence, and he is concealing himself from the emissaries of King George II. when the piece opens. Sir Walter has lain *perdu* in a coal-mine for some considerable time, but his place of concealment has been revealed to Captain Mildmay, the officer in command of the pursuing party; and, in order to baffle the Captain, Sir Walter changes clothes with Michael, and so escapes. Michael, however, finds himself under the necessity of leaving the mine in the company of Richard Darkyn (Mr. F. Villiers), the villain of the piece, who has revealed Sir Walter's place of concealment to Captain Mildmay, partly from a desire to get the reward of a thousand pounds offered for Sir Walter's arrest, and partly from a motive of revenge towards Michael, who is his successful rival in a love affair with Katie (Mrs. Katherine Rodgers). In the bucket in which Darkyn and Michael are conveyed to the upper world, Darkyn stabs Michael; and the unfortunate man is received at the surface by the soldiery, who suppose that he is Sir Walter, and that he is dead. One of the very best situations that it has ever been my lot to witness on the stage ensues upon the discovery by Lady Kenyon (Miss Montagu) and by Katie of the supposed death of the supposed Baronet. It would, perhaps, be unfair to the piece if I described it at length, and it would certainly take up more of your space than you will find it convenient to devote to your Theatrical Lounger if I did so. I will, therefore, content myself with repeating that the most ingenious and the most really pathetic situation I have ever seen ensue upon the discovery and its preliminary mystification. The third act is taken up with the devices of Sir Walter to elude the pursuit which is revived on discovering the imposture that has been practised on the Captain—devices which have been very ingeniously elaborated by Mr. Robertson, and which are eventually put an end to by the pardon of the fugitive, which has lain for some time in the pocket of a blundering justice of the peace. The piece is illustrated by some admirable scenery. One scene—a pine forest in a snowstorm—is strikingly beautiful, and, in a stage sense, quite original. The piece is very badly played by everyone concerned except Mr. Forrester, Mr. Shore, and Mrs. Rodgers. Anything more preposterously melodramatic than Mr. F. Villiers's performance in the second act has never been seen out of the Victoria Theatre. Mr. Vining played an unimportant part, which had little to do with the piece, and certainly nothing at all with its success. The author received the compliment of a special call at the end of the second act.



### "SEA PLUNDERERS."

WHOEVER first sees this picture—"Les Pilleurs de Mer"—will, we believe, be instantly reminded of M. Victor Hugo and his last wonderful book. Not that the toilers of the sea are to be confounded with its plunderers, but because M. Luminais, the artist who sent this admirable painting to the last Fine-Art Exhibition in Paris, has caught the spirit of the scene which he depicts, and so wrought out his subject that writer and artist seem to have met on common ground, which both have, as it were, made into an inheritance for us all.

It is not, however, at Guernsey that M. Luminais has chosen his scene; he found it among the Bretons—people of all the Celtic races the most Celtic, except, perhaps, the Welsh, to whose language their own is closely allied. We have, happily, got rid of those dreadful scenes which once disgraced humanity on our own western coasts, and the Cornish wreckers are but legendary personages, as far as deeds of cruelty and murder are concerned. There are still a few people living that had sea-border life who think that the shattered vessel driven on to the rocks and all its cargo scattered by the breakers is but flotsam and jetsam—the property of whoever is bold enough or lucky enough to snatch it from the hungry waves; but we hear little now of false lights, of lawless marauders waiting on the rocks or the beach ready to murder the wretched survivors of the riven craft for the sake of the plunder that may be gained. It was a wretched, savage, turbulent, uneasy, shifty life that was led by the people on our granite coasts who followed this shameful business, combined with an occasional haul of smuggled goods; but we live in better times, and M. Luminais has reminded us of the fact by his striking picture of the Breton wreckers.

### NIGHT FETE OF THE PARIS SKATING CLUB.

THE terrible calamity at Regent's Park seems to have affected some of the usual skating demonstrations which the late frost might have inaugurated in London; but in Paris the club which holds its meetings on the lake in the Bois de Boulogne held a magnificent festival on the night of the 22nd of last month, one of the scenes presented by which forms the subject of our illustration. At seven o'clock the "ice club," a large and handsome chalet, was illuminated, and the avenues which led to it were crowded with elegant equipages, which moved under festoons of Venetian lanterns slung upon cords fastened to the oaks. Along the entire route shone lamps amidst the snow like glow-worms, and from the distance sounded the skaters' song from "Le Prophète," played by the Guards' band. The chalet was all ablaze with light, at the gates of which the sergent-de-ville had their work to do to repress the eager crowd. Three thousand persons were received into the reserved inclosure, and before the clubhouse whirled and circled an assembly gorgeously attired in the most extraordinary costumes, the Astracan bonnet contrasting with the Oriental fez; the Scotch glengarry with the square Polish cap. Brandenburg overcoats, Russian fur vests, and every other variety of wrap had its representative; and the female costumes seemed to be composed entirely of fur, silk, velvet, and gleaming jewels. In the front of the club the ground, or rather the water, had been prepared, and shone a smooth sheet of ice; while around the lake tall masts supported the festoons of coloured lamps, which made a cordon of sparkling light, while the island in the middle of the water was similarly embellished. A fence had been raised round the basin to keep off the crowd of spectators who had not admission to the clubhouse, where the Imperial cabinet (a very plain apartment) adjoins the grand saloon;—for the Emperor is a skater, and frequently pays a visit to the lake, where both he and the Empress have often taken a turn at this splendid exercise.

Neither of their Majesties were present at the fête, however, though there was certainly no lack of notabilities, amongst whom were Prince Joachim Murat, Count Aguado; Prince Arenberg, of the Prussian Embassy; Princess Metternich, Prince and Princess Naraschine, Count Saint Priest, Marquis Lan, Marquis Castelbajac, and M. Cartier, the secretary of the club and prince of skaters. In addition to these, the celebrated Isabelle, the bouquetière of the Jockey Club, was present, offering, with her habitual grace, bouquets of early spring flowers.

At eight o'clock the band, which was bivouacked on the island, where they had lighted fires, struck up a glorious fanfare, and the revel commenced. "Imagination," says a correspondent, "figured a vast lake of silver, around which ran garlands of glittering lamps, which shed a many-coloured lustre over the weird scene. The lake was evidently magic territory. What a scene! A heaven of light, a milky way of cream and other coloured lamps, a hazy mist of red, white, and blue; and then, as we enter, a great outbreak of electric light! Over the silvery surface of a slumbering lake there seems to glide rapidly, ghostly, unearthly, a crowd of spectres—spectres fair to view; spectres in velvet and ermine, spectres in fur, in satin, in glorious little hats. Spectres!

I should have called them spectresses! One spectress, then, in my fevered dream resembled the grande dame whose husband represents here a great but unlucky German Power. In my dream I saw the rush of fiends round that costume, which was more than usually charming. Whole embassies seemed to me to be gliding on the surface of this pellucid and imaginary lake, getting, as it were, over concealed difficulties. Grandes dames who should have been at balls lingered in dreamland. The music arose with its voluptuous swell from the magic isle. Electric lights glittered, and all the time there whizzed by male and female, the latter sometimes pushed in conveyances which, to my dreamy eyes, seemed like Bath chairs that had gone mad and taken to drinking. But hush! hark! There is a pause, and possibly dreamer turns round in bed. Whiz goes a rocket! That single rocket seemed to be a signal for more. The spectres and spectresses wheeled in eddying circles round us. A band plays 'Il Bacio.' They chatter on shore, they glide on the water, and then a great burst of light proclaims the bouquet of the fireworks and the end of the fête."



"WRECKERS ON THE LOOK-OUT."—(FROM A PICTURE, BY M. LUMINAI, IN THE LATE EXHIBITION OF FINE ARTS, PARIS.)

### THE INUNDATIONS AT VENICE.

IMAGINE an inundation at Venice! The Bride of the Sea, and the very capital of waterways! The thing seems impossible unless the floods should lift the waters into liquid mountains and so overwhelm the land. And yet this thing has really happened, and the queen of the Adriatic has been ducked by a high tide. On the 15th and 16th of last month the city was half under water, the streets were impassable, the wells and cisterns were all filled, and many of the shops, principally those of the Piazza San Marco, had their goods damaged. From a picturesque point of view, however, it was a remarkable spectacle, full of unforeseen and strange incidents. We have so recently given a tolerably full description of Venice during the festivals that our readers will be able to imagine what was the effect of a flood in those wonderful squares and waterside streets, where even in ordinary times there is as much water as land, or, rather, we should say, as marble. Venice has, indeed, seemed as though she had risen from the liquid mirror, and as though her foundations were laid in the deep lagoon, while the flood lasted; and the events have been equally striking and perilous to passengers who did not confine themselves to the gondolas. Our Engraving represents the difficulty of an excursion along the Piazzetta Santa Maria, at the moment when the temporary bridge was raised from the Ponto Faglia to the new buildings of the Procurator's Court. It was a terrible passage that, and could only be made at the imminent risk of losing hats, umbrellas, reticules, wigs, handkerchiefs, and even chignons; while the display of feet and ankles would have shocked the proprieties of

the Doges, if they could have been alive to see. The gondoliers reaped a wonderful harvest, or rather made a great haul of lost property. There hadn't been such fishing for many a year; so that it is an ill-wind that blows nobody good, and the poor boatmen sadly need something good at this season of the year, when the "City of Song" has a cold in its head and the tourists have all gone home till next season.

### MR. GOLDWIN SMITH UPON PITT.

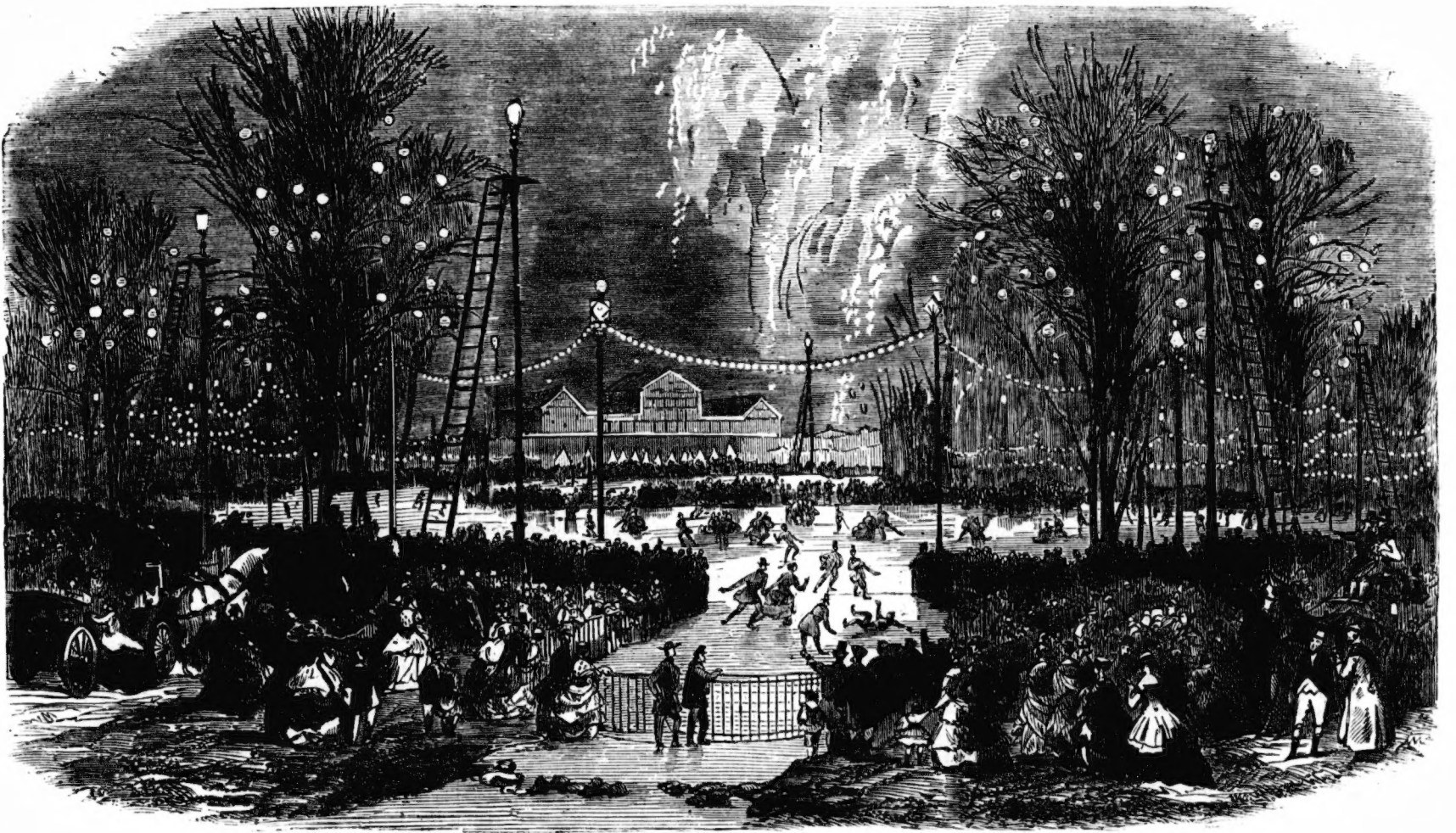
ON Monday evening, at Manchester, Mr. Smith concluded his series of lectures on English political history, by delivering the second of the two upon William Pitt.

The lecturer said the root of the whole failure of the French Revolution lay in the absence of faith. Without a new faith humanity cannot advance into a new order of things. The present military despotism is an improvement upon the Bourbon monarchy in so far as it embraces social equality and religious toleration; but,

if it be thought that to Europe in general Bonapartism is an advance worth all the bloodshed, suffering, and havoc of the Napoleonic wars, let us first consider the progress which had been made before the Revolution, under the forms of the old institutions, by such reformers as Frederick the Great, Joseph II., and William Pitt. The lecturer condemned both the coalition of despots against the Revolution, and the proclamations of universalism by the revolutionary propaganda. Let us, he said, thank God that our day sees the fortunes of humanity, in this, its critical transition from feudalism to the era of equality and justice, placed in safer and nobler hands. Italy had been oppressed both by despots and by priests, yet nothing for which liberty need blush, nothing in which liberty cannot glory, is associated with the fair fame of Garibaldi. Mazzini has a breadth of sympathy, a largeness of intelligence, a grandeur of soul, far beyond those of any actor in the French Revolution. The German people is advancing through unity to political freedom. Freedom of the mind beyond all other races it already has. The French will not attempt to interfere with the development of new members of the community of nations. If the Bonapartes do, they will find that Bonapartism can exist only in the hour of despair which follows an abortive revolution, and that the hour of despair is past. Of the bad effects of the French Revolution on the general interests of progress there could be no more signal or sudden proof than the conversion of Pitt to the side of reaction. He was as far as possible from wishing to attack the Revolution. But the fears and passions of the Court, the aristocracy, and the clergy had been aroused; the progress of the Revolution daily increased their excitement, and it was raised to the highest pitch by the declamations of Burke. No doubt, in his "Reflections," Burke was sincere. He was a worshiper of Constitutional monarchy; it was his fetish; he loved and adored it with the passionate loyalty which, as an Irishman in his own country, he would have felt towards the chief of his clan. His philosophy afforded no firm and lofty ground of immutable faith in things unseen from which he could form a rational estimate of political systems as things merely subservient to the higher life of man—venerable only for their utility, not to be altered without good reason, but, when there was good reason, to be altered or abolished without superstitious scruple, and destined, like all other parts of the outward vesture of humanity, to pass away before the

end. When the French Revolution got beyond his consecrated type it forfeited his sympathy; and, with a nature so passionate as his, to forfeit sympathy was to incur hatred. Fox behaved unwisely. He ought, in the interest of his cause, to have repressed the ardour of his sympathies, to have blamed the excesses while he showed the benefits of the Revolution; to have pointed out how inevitable it was in France; how different was the case of the English from that of the French monarchy; how small was the danger in England of French contagion; and to have insisted that for whatever danger there might be the right antidote was not war or violent repression, but timely measures of reform. He would thus have strengthened the hands of Pitt in the resistance which he was undoubtedly making to the war tendencies of his party and of the Court. But he was the leader of the Opposition, and the function of a leader of the Opposition is, at all costs and hazards, to assail and to embarrass the Government. While the system of party Government lasts it must be so. But let us hope that party Government is not to be end of all things, and that in the course of our political development we shall find a way of establishing a Government to which we may all feel loyal, and which we may all desire to support as the Government, not of party, but of the nation. Pressed by his own party, unsupported in his resistance by the Opposition, Pitt, though the spirit of Adam Smith struggled hard and long within him, began to slide towards war. The execution of the King decided him. In the lecturer's belief, Pitt felt that he was doing wrong; but, though a patriot and a man of honour, he had not a God in his breast. He could not resign power and break with all



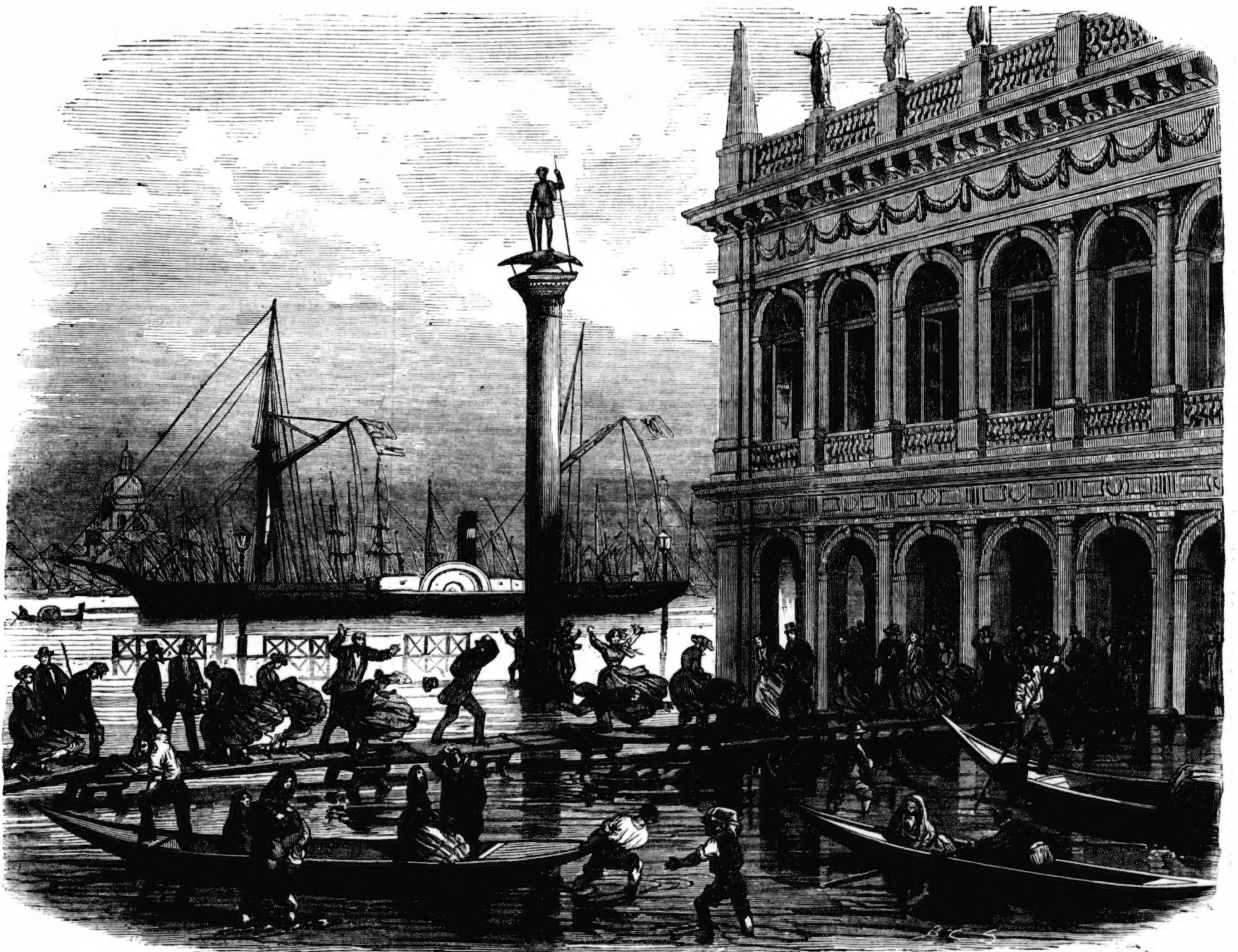


SKATING FÊTE AT PARIS.

his friends. Reasoning like a financier, and seeing the depreciation of French assignats, he thought that it would be a short war. When he found himself undeceived in this, he made earnest and even humiliating efforts to buy a peace. The lecturer reviewed the several grounds which have been assigned for making war in this case, and found them all indefinite and insufficient. Among other pretenses it was said that we went to war in behalf of public right. But, though the conduct of the Republican armies in the countries

they overran was infamous, it was the fortune of war against those who had first attacked France; and our allies in defence of public right, what sort of champions of it were they? Austria, Prussia, and Russia had just consummated the partition of Poland, the most flagrant violation of public right in history, and one against which, let them roll as many stones to the mouth of that sepulchre as they will, nature and justice will protest till right is done. It was sad to say it, but when Pitt had once left the path of right he fell head-

long into evil. Measures of repression were adopted throughout the kingdom, and a Tory reign of terror commenced, to which a slight increase of the panic among the upper classes would probably have given a redder hue. The juries in London and the large towns deserved gratitude, but the Judges behaved not quite so well. The tenure of the Judges is independent; but, after all, they belong to a political party and to a social class. We were reminded of this pretty strongly the other day by the new Chief Justice of the



INUNDATIONS AT VENICE.



Common Pleas. How to appoint Judges who shall be strictly impartial in political cases is, it is to be feared, a problem still to be solved. Perhaps the nearest approach made to it is the Supreme Court of the United States. The worst reign of terror, and in no figurative sense, was in Ireland, which was put under martial law. When the appearance of the French army of liberation made it manifest that the Orange Government of Ireland was not only criminal but dangerous, Pitt resolved to carry the Union, and the Union was carried by bribery and corruption of every kind. The Union was a good and an indispensable measure. It was, as Pitt saw, the only chance of saving Ireland from Protestant ascendancy and provincial tyranny, and legally, of course, it was perfectly valid. To give it moral validity it required the free ratification of the Irish people. When the Union is what Pitt declared it was to be, a union of equal laws, that ratification will be obtained. The lecturer noticed Pitt's deficiency as a War Minister. He had not his father's eye for men. He was open to a worse censure than that of failing to distinguish merit. When he allowed himself to be made Minister by an unconstitutional use of the King's personal influence, he had sold himself to the fiend, and the fiend did not fail to exact the bond. Twice Pitt had the criminal weakness to gratify the King's personal wishes by intrusting the safety of English armies and the honour of England to the incompetent hands of the young Duke of York. But could promotion by merit be expected at the hands of Governments whose essence was privilege? It was against promotion by merit that they were fighting. To accept it would have been to accept the Revolution. Pitt did not know why he had gone to war; and, therefore, when he found himself abandoned by most of his allies, the rest requiring subsidies to drag them into the field—the cause of Europe, as it was called, renounced by Europe itself, everything going ill, and no prospect of amendment—he did not know how or on what terms to make peace. This was called his firmness. At last, in 1801, peace, and an ignominious peace, was inevitable, and Pitt retired. But he came into power again to conduct a war, and this time a necessary war, for with the perfidy and rapine of Bonaparte no peace was possible. The struggle with him was a struggle for the independence of all nations against the armed and disciplined hordes of a conqueror as cruel and barbarous as Attila. The lecturer looked with pride upon the fortitude and constancy which England displayed in the contest with this universal tyrant. The position in which it left her at its close was fairly won, though she must now be content to retire from the temporary supremacy and fall back into her place as one of the community of nations. But Pitt was still destined to fail as a War Minister. Trafalgar was soon cancelled by Austerlitz. "How I leave my country!" were Pitt's last words, and, perhaps, his truest epitaph. They well expressed the anguish of a patriot who had wrecked his country.

**THE FRESCOS IN THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.**—It is understood that in a short time the state of the frescoes in the various parts of the building will again be the subject of Parliamentary inquiry. The state of the frescoes in the Upper Waiting-hall, which are wasting away through the damp, it is thought may be accounted for from the fact that they were painted on the wall, whereas the frescoes in the corridors leading to the Peers' Lobby were painted in the studios of the several artists, and all have a leaden foundation, which it was thought would be a preventive against damp; but they are now gradually beginning to fade. In the fresco by C. W. Cope, R.A., "The Burial of Charles I." the colour is peeling away. Within the last few days the frescoes in the Houses generally have been the subject of minute and careful observation by connoisseurs, and the opinion seems to be that the colours are not placed upon a surface which sufficiently resists the influence of the atmosphere. The whole question, however, it is understood, will be gone into without delay.

**STRIKE AND RIOTS IN BELGIUM.**—The metal-workers of Marchienne and the surrounding district in Belgium have struck on account of the masters having announced a reduction of 10 per cent on their wages on account of the depressed state of the iron trade, and, unfortunately, committed many acts of violence on the persons and property of the masters. The troops were accordingly called out: a conflict took place, and some lives were lost. Similar disturbances have also taken place in other places. Thirty of the miners who took part in the riots at Marchienne have been arrested, including the principal ringleader. This has had the effect of restoring order, and the men belonging to the different factories and coal-mines near Marchiennes have now resumed work.

**EPPLING FOREST.**—On Friday night week Marquis Townshend presided over a public meeting held in the Beaumont Institution, Mile-end-road, for the purpose, as stated in the advertisement, of "taking into consideration the conduct of the Government in permitting the inclosure and destruction of Epping Forest, to take measures to prevent its further inclosure, and to preserve it for the use and enjoyment of the people." The noble Marquis expressed the pleasure he felt at presiding on the occasion, and, in the course of an interesting speech, said he considered the question of affording room for the recreation of the people of the metropolis one of very great importance, affecting, as it did, the physical and moral health of the inhabitants of London. He promised to give his best support to any remedial measure that might be introduced in Parliament in reference to the question of the preservation of the commons and open spaces around London. Sir F. Buxton moved the first resolution as follows:—"That it is of vital importance to the inhabitants of the east end of London to preserve from inclosure the forest of Epping, which for centuries has been the chief place of their resort for recreation and health, and this meeting views with especial displeasure the recent inclosures at Loughton, Woodford, and Wanstead." He said that, at the present time, when building operations effected the complete demolition of places hitherto used for recreative purposes, the preservation of the forest of Epping, which was now the nearest country resort of the labouring population of the east end of London, was a matter requiring the most serious attention. Mr. Johnston seconded the resolution, and it was supported by Mr. Shaw Lefevre, M.P. The hon. gentlemen referred to the legal complications which affected the right of the public to Epping Forest, and said that if the law in its present state did not favour the claim of the public to be allowed the use of that place, immediate steps should be taken to have it amended. He said he had great confidence in the result of the suit now pending between the inhabitants of Hampstead and Sir Thomas Wilson, owing to his inclosure of Hampstead-heath. Resolutions urging the formation of a fund of £10,000 to defray the expenses of ascertaining the right of lords of the manor to inclose the waste lands within the forest, and adopting measures to resist illegal inclosures, as well as requesting the Commons Preservation Society to communicate with Lord John Manners with reference to the future action of the Government respecting the forest, were proposed, and carried unanimously.

**WOOD NAPHTHA.**—The principal of the Inland Revenue laboratory, reporting on the fraudulent use of wood naphtha in the preparation of beverages under various names, says:—"Methylated spirit was, I believe, first sold as a beverage under the name of 'Indian brandy,' a title which alone almost proves the real object of its sale. Next was introduced 'medicated whiskey,' 'pure Islay mountain,' and others, the names of which were more suggestive of the gin-palace than of the druggist's shop. Their unequalled valuable properties were widely made known through a profuse circulation of handbills and by other means. Persons went about the country pressing small shopkeepers to become retailers of the spurious article, and I have no doubt that throughout the whole of these transactions there was a tacit understanding among all concerned that the liquids should be asked for and sold as a medicine, although meant to be consumed as an ordinary stimulant. The spurious compounds, under whatever name they were sold, had no definite composition, the only substance which was constantly present, and which, in combination with water, formed nearly the whole bulk, being methylated spirit, or a derivation from such spirit. The 'Indian brandy' was put forward as a specific for nearly every disease, and was said to be composed of the most costly and rare productions of India, which had by great skill been so combined and applied as to become a perfect boon to the human race. It is sad to reflect upon the unblushing audacity of such statements, made by persons who deem themselves honest, and who would resent the application to them of the word impostor, but it is far more so to think that there are large masses of the labouring classes in this country who firmly believe them. As a corollary to the above, it may not be amiss to state that each of the samples sold as 'Indian brandy' analysed during the past year was composed of either one or other of the following groups of substance—First, Methylated spirit partially purified by treatment with nitric acid and distillation, containing a trace of sweet spirit of nitre, and sweetened with brown sugar. Second, Methylated spirit slightly flavoured with rhubarb, and sweetened with brown sugar. Third, Methylated spirit simply sweetened and coloured. Fourth, Methylated spirit, containing a small quantity of chloroform, and coloured. Fifth, Methylated spirit, with a small quantity of opium. Sixth, Methylated spirit, coloured, sweetened, and slightly flavoured with ginger. Seventh, Methylated spirit, flavoured with fennel-seed, and coloured. Several samples of 'whiskey' were analysed, and, with the exception of not being coloured, found to be identical with the first group of ingredients given above. Two samples of 'Indian tincture' were also examined; one was composed of methylated spirit, containing a trace of sweet of nitre, and much sweetened with treacle; the other was nothing more than methylated spirit similarly sweetened."

## INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF MR. JOHN STUART MILL, M.P., AT ST. ANDREW'S.

ON Friday week the installation of Mr. Stuart Mill, M.P., as Rector of the University of St. Andrew's, took place, when the Rector delivered an address on education. At the outset he dwelt on the proper function of a university in national education, maintaining that it was not to teach the knowledge required to fit men for some special mode of gaining their livelihood, but to make them capable and cultivated human beings. Noticing next the question whether education should be classical or scientific, he said the question seemed to him very like a dispute whether painters should cultivate drawing or colouring; or, to use a more homely illustration, whether a tailor should make coats or trousers. He could only reply by the question, Why not both? Could anything deserve the name of a good education which did not include literature and science too? If there were no more to be said than that scientific education teaches us to think, and literary education to express our thoughts, did we not require both? and was not anyone a poor, maimed, lopsided fragment of humanity who was deficient in either? If all the improvements in the mode of teaching language which were already sanctioned by experience were adopted into our classical schools, he thought we should soon cease to hear of Latin and Greek as studies which must engross the school years, and render impossible any other acquirements. He did not agree with those reformers who would give a regular and prominent place in the school or university course to modern languages. Living languages were so much more easily acquired by intercourse with those who use them in daily life that it was really waste of time for those to whom the easier mode was attainable to labour at them with no help but that of books and masters; and it would in time be made attainable, through international schools and colleges, to many more than at present. The only languages and the only literature to which he would allow a place in the ordinary curriculum were those of the Greeks and Romans; and to these he would preserve the position in it which they at present occupy, which he thought was justified by the great value in education of knowing well some other cultivated language and literature than one's own, and by the peculiar value of those particular languages and literatures. The Rector went on to direct attention to the advantages of the study of classical literature, in the discipline which it gave to the intellect, the encouragement and help which it afforded in the pursuit of truth, and in the foundation which it laid for ethical and philosophical culture. In concluding his remarks on this subject, the Rector referred as follows to the mode of classical instruction in English classical schools:—

"For all these reasons, I think it important to retain these two languages and literatures in the place they occupy as a part of liberal education—that is, of the education of all who are not obliged by their circumstances to discontinue their scholastic studies at a very early age. But the same reasons which vindicate the place of classical studies in general education show also the proper limitation of them. They should be carried as far as is sufficient to enable the pupil in after life to read the great works of ancient literature with ease. Those who have leisure and inclination to make scholarship, or ancient history, or general philology, their pursuit, of course require much more; but there is no room for more in general education. The laborious idleness in which the school-time is wasted in the English classical schools deserves the severest reprehension. To what purpose should the most precious years of early life be irreparably squandered in learning to write bad Latin and Greek verses? I do not see that we are much the better even for those who end by writing good ones. I am often tempted to ask the favourites of Nature and Fortune, whether all the serious and important work of the world is done, that their time and energy can be spared for these *nugæ difficiles*? I am not blind to the utility of composing in a language as a means of learning it accurately. I hardly know any other means equally effectual. But why should not prose composition suffice? What need is there of original composition at all—if that can be called original which unfortunate schoolboys, without any thoughts to express, hammer out on compulsion from mere memory, acquiring the pernicious habit which a teacher should consider it one of his first duties to repress, that of merely stringing together borrowed phrases? The exercise in composition most suitable to the requirements of learners is that most valuable one of retranslating from translated passages of a good author; and to this might be added what still exists in many Continental places of education—occasional practice in talking Latin. There would be something to be said for the time spent in the manufacture of verses if such practice were necessary for the enjoyment of ancient poetry; though it would be better to lose that enjoyment than to purchase it at so extravagant a price. But the beauties of a great poet would be a far poorer thing than they are if they only impressed us through a knowledge of the technicalities of his art. The poet needed those technicalities; they are not necessary to us. They are essential for criticising a poem, but not for enjoying it. All that is wanted is sufficient familiarity with the language for its meaning to reach us without any sense of effort, and clothed with the associations on which the poet counted for producing his effect. Whoever has this familiarity, and a practised ear, can have as keen a relish of the music of Virgil and Horace, as of Gray, or Burns, or Shelley, though he know not the metrical rules of a common Sapphic or Alcaic. I do not say that these rules ought not to be taught; but I would have a class apart for them, and would make the appropriate exercises an optional, not a compulsory, part of the school teaching." The Rector next dwelt upon the indispensable necessity of scientific instruction as a process of training and discipline, to fit the intellect for the proper work of a human being—the ascertainment of truth; and showed that, while mathematical science afforded a conclusive example of what could be done by reasoning in the ascertainment of truth, so the physical sciences which are not mathematical, such as chemistry and purely experimental physics, showed us, in equal perfection, the other mode of arriving at certain truth by observation in its most accurate form—that of experiment. He also commented on the value of logic as a part of intellectual education, declaring as that science did the principles, rules, and precepts of which the mathematical and physical sciences exemplified the observance. After passing in review and pointing out the value of the studies of physiology, psychology, political economy, jurisprudence, and international law, the Rector proceeded to notice the subject of professional instruction in moral philosophy, expressing the wish that it were more expository, less polemical, and, above all, less dogmatic. The learner should be made acquainted with the principal systems of moral philosophy which have existed and been practically operative among mankind, and hear what there was to be said for each, the teacher's business being not to impose his own judgment, but to inform and discipline that of his pupil. Passing next to religious education, the Rector spoke as follows on the relation of education to religion:—"The only really effective religious education is the parental—that of home and childhood. All that social and public education has in its power to do, further than by a general pervading tone of reverence and duty, amount to little more than the information which it can give; but this is extremely valuable. I shall not enter into the question, which has been debated with so much vehemence in the last and present generation, whether religion ought to be taught at all in universities and public schools, seeing that religion is the subject of all others on which men's opinions are at variance. On neither side of this controversy do the disputants seem to me to have sufficiently freed their minds from the old notion of education, that it consists in the dogmatic inculcation from authority of what the teacher deems true. Why should it be impossible that information of the greatest value on subjects connected with religion should be brought before the student's mind, that he should be made acquainted with so important a part of the national thought, and of the intellectual labours of past generations, as those relating to religion, without being taught dogmatically the doctrines of any church or sect? Christianity being a historical religion, the sort of religion which seems to me most appropriate to a university is the study of ecclesiastical

history. If teaching, even on matters of scientific certainty, should aim quite as much at showing how the results are arrived at, as at teaching the results themselves, far more, then, should this be the case on subjects where there is the widest diversity of opinion among men of equal ability, who have taken equal pains to arrive at the truth. This diversity should of itself be a warning to a conscientious teacher that he has no right to impose his opinion authoritatively upon a youthful mind. His teaching should not be in the spirit of dogmatism, but in that of inquiry. The pupil should not be addressed as if his religion had been chosen for him, but as one who will have to choose it for himself. The various Churches, established and unestablished, are quite competent to the task which is particularly theirs—that of teaching each its own doctrines, as far as necessary, to its own rising generation. The proper business of a university is different; not to tell us, from authority, what we ought to believe and make us accept the belief as a duty, but to give us information and training and help us to form our own belief in a manner worthy of intelligent beings, who seek for truth at all hazards and demand to know all the difficulties, in order that they may be better qualified to find or recognise the most satisfactory mode of resolving them. The vast importance of these questions—the great results, as regards the conduct of our lives, which depend upon our choosing one belief or another—are the strongest reasons why we should not trust our judgment when it has been formed in ignorance of the evidence, and why we should not be content to be restricted to a one-sided teaching, which informs us of what a particular teacher or association of teachers receive as true doctrine and sound argument, but of nothing more. I do not affirm that a university, if it represses free thought and inquiry, must be altogether a failure, for the freest thinkers have often been trained in the most slavish seminaries of learning. The great Christian reformers were taught in Roman Catholic universities; the sceptical philosophers of France were mostly educated by the Jesuits. The human mind is sometimes impelled all the more violently in one direction by an over-zealous and demonstrative attempt to drag it in the opposite. But this is not what universities are appointed for—to drive men from them, even into good, by excess of evil. A university ought to be a place of free speculation. The more diligently it does its duties in all other respects, the more certain it is to be that. The old English universities, in the present generation, are doing better work than they have done within human memory, in teaching the ordinary studies of their curriculum; and one of the consequences has been that, whereas they formerly seemed to exist mainly for the repression of independent thought and the chaining up of the individual intellect and conscience, they are now the great foci of free and manly inquiry to the higher and professional classes south of the Tweed. The ruling minds of those ancient seminaries have at last remembered that to place themselves in hostility to the free use of the understanding is to abdicate their own best privilege—that of guiding it. A modest deference, at least provisional, to the limited authority of the specially instructed, is becoming in a youthful and imperfectly-formed mind; but when there is no united authority—when the specially instructed are so divided and scattered that almost any opinion can boast of some high authority, and no opinion whatever can claim all—when, therefore, it can never be deemed extremely improbable that one who uses his mind freely may see reason to change his first opinion—then, whatever you do, keep at all risks your minds open, do not barter away your freedom of thought. Those of you who are destined for the clerical profession are, no doubt, so far held to a certain number of doctrines, that if you ceased to believe them you would not be justified in remaining in a position in which you would require to teach insincerely. But use your influence to make those doctrines as few as possible. It is not right that men should be bribed to hold out against conviction—to shut their ears against objections; or, if the objections penetrate, to continue professing full and unflinching belief when their confidence is already shaken. Neither is it right that, if men honestly profess to have changed some of their religious opinions, their honesty should, as a matter of course, exclude them from taking a part for which they may be admirably qualified in the spiritual instruction of the nation. The tendency of the age, on both sides of the ancient Border, is towards the relaxation of formularies and a less rigid construction of articles. This very circumstance, by making the limits of orthodoxy less definite, and obliging everyone to draw the line for himself, is an embarrassment to consciences. But I hold entirely with those clergymen who elect to remain in the national Church so long as they are able to accept its articles and confessions in any sense, or with any interpretation, consistent with common honesty, whether it be the generally received interpretation or not. If all were to desert the Church who put a large and liberal construction on its terms of communion, or who would wish to see those terms widened, the national provision for religious teaching and worship would be left utterly to those who take the narrowest, the most illiberal, and purely textual view of the formularies; who, through by no means necessarily bigots, are under the great disadvantage of having the bigots for their allies; and who, however great their merits may be—and they are often very great—yet, if the Church is improvable, are not the most likely persons to improve it. Therefore, if it were not an impertinence in me to tender advice in such a matter, I should say, let all who conscientiously can, remain in the Church. A Church is far more easily improved from within than from without. Almost all the illustrious reformers of religion began by being clergymen; but they did not think that their profession as clergymen was inconsistent with being reformers. They mostly, indeed, ended their days outside the Churches in which they were born; but it was because the Churches in an evil hour for themselves, cast them out. They did not think it any business of theirs to withdraw; they thought they had a better right to remain in the fold than those who expelled them."

The Rector, after some remarks on the æsthetic branch of education—the culture which comes through poetry and art—concluded with a few words of advice to the students to profit by the opportunities of improvement which they enjoyed.

The address, which occupied above two hours in delivery, was listened to with great interest, and was frequently applauded.

**THE KING OF PRUSSIA** has given his consent to the marriage of Princess Mary of Hohenzollern with the Count of Flanders.

**MR. FRANK BUCKLAND** has been appointed an inspector of salmon fisheries, in the room of Mr. Eden, who has retired from that appointment.

**THE CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE THAMES AND TYNE.**—On Monday night there was a large meeting of the backers of Henry Kelley, of Putney, and Robert Chambers, of St. Anthony's-on-the-Tyne, the two great rivals for the championship of the sculls on the Thames and Tyne and of the world, which meeting was held at Newcastle-on-Tyne, when a match was made, to come off on Monday, the 6th of May, to row a right-away scullers' race from the High-Level Bridge, Newcastle-on-Tyne, to Lemington Point, for £200 a side; Kelley to receive £25 for expenses. Kelley and Chambers were present at the meeting, and assented to the arrangements.

**THE MANSION HOUSE METROPOLITAN DISTRESS FUND.**—The committee met on Wednesday, at two o'clock, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor. There were several deputations applying for relief from different districts, and among them were one from the East London Central General Committee, from the Ratcliffe Soup Kitchen, from St. Philip (Stepney) Soup Kitchen, from Canning Town and Plawstow Marsh, from Tower-hill (introduced by Mr. John Young, a member of the Common Council), from the hamlet of Mile-end New Town, from the Old Kent-road district, from Spitalfields, from the Poplar Working Men's Committee, and from the parish of St. Thomas, Stepney. It appeared from a statement made by Mr. Ball, the cashier, that the total amount received at the Mansion House up to one o'clock on Wednesday was £778 18s. 4d., and there had been in addition about £3400 received at the different bankers, making a total of £11,260. Of this sum about £5050 had been expended in different grants, and a balance of £6205 remained at the disposal of the committee. It appears to be pretty generally felt that the object of the fund has been well carried out, and that with the approach of spring there will no longer be any necessity for the continuance of the committee. The proceedings on Wednesday occupied more than three hours, and among the sums that were granted were one of £300 to the Tower-hill district, this being the second grant, and one of £100 to St. Thomas's, Stepney. The greater portion of the remaining applications were rejected by the committee, on the ground that they did not come within the legitimate scope of operations for which the fund was erected.



## LAW AND CRIME.

**THE trial at the Central Criminal Court of four prisoners, named respectively Webb, Holdsworth, Dean, and Berwick, on a charge of having scuttled the ship Severn, with intent to defraud the insurers, was concluded on Monday last.** The ship had, as it appeared, been purchased by the prisoners Holdsworth and Berwick under peculiar circumstances. Berwick was a master mariner, and Holdsworth a ship and insurance broker: they concocted a scheme by which they contrived to obtain possession of the vessel through the agency of a nominal purchaser named Ward, who received a sum of £50 as his commission. Berwick rendered himself liable for a mortgage on the vessel, for the additional value of which he gave bills. In reality there appears to have been no money actually paid in the course of the transaction beyond the £50 paid to Ward and the amount of the insurance premium. The vessel was chartered for China with a pretended cargo of arms, for which the prisoner Dean signed a fictitious contract in the name of Allsopp and Co. It was actually laden with salt. The reason for the purchase being made in the name of Ward was that Berwick already enjoyed a doubtful reputation as the owner of several vessels insured and lost at sea. Of one of these a Captain Leyland had, not long before, been the master, and Webb was charged with having feloniously destroyed the vessel. Leyland appeared as evidence against his accomplices, although he appears by no means the least guilty of the parties in the conspiracy. The ship was sunk by being scuttled, though in a storm, and it was a suspicious circumstance that this occurred on the day after the boats had been prepared for sea, and the last sail rigged upon the long-boat. False entries as to the state of the weather had been made by the prisoner Webb. Captain Leyland, in his evidence, stated that he had intended to go down with the ship, but this piece of evidence the learned Judge, in his summing up, declared that he did not believe. The trial occupied several days, and the jury were kept in custody during the whole of Sunday last. On Monday they returned a verdict of guilty against all the prisoners, with a recommendation of the prisoner Dean to mercy, on the ground that he had been greatly under the influence of Holdsworth. After the verdict the Court was informed that, in 1862, a warrant had been issued against Berwick for having been concerned in the destruction of a vessel called the Kate Kearney; and Mr. Lewis, counsel for the prosecution, added that he held in his hand a list of fifteen vessels that had belonged to Berwick and Holdsworth, either jointly or separately, the whole of which had been lost at sea, as was believed wilfully. Happily, no lives had been sacrificed by the sinking of the Severn. The sentences upon the prisoners were all of penal servitude: twenty years each to Berwick and Holdsworth, ten years to Webb, and five to Dean. The Judge expressed his regret that the ends of justice had rendered it necessary that Captain Leyland should be made a witness, and that he could not be prosecuted. The Court, in consideration of the labours of the jury, announced that the Sheriffs would be directed not to summon any of them again for the period of six years.

A very curious verdict was last week delivered by a Coroner's jury at Clerkenwell, in the case of an inquest held upon the body of Alfred Tolkein, the late clown at Sadler's Wells Theatre. During the pantomime the deceased had to take what is technically known as a "window leap." In such case it is necessary that the performer, who leaps horizontally, should be caught at the back of the scene by four men; and it is, we believe, not without precedent that, in case of his having given offence to certain other persons engaged in the theatre, the necessary support may be withheld, in which case the player is exposed to the peril of severe if not fatal injury. An instance of this kind, if we remember rightly, is recorded by Mr. Charles Dickens. In the present case no such assistance was rendered to the unfortunate clown, who consequently fell heavily. He complained of injury from that time until his death, which happened shortly afterwards. The jury returned a verdict of "Death from natural causes, accelerated by excitement."

An application was made to Sir Thomas Henry, on Wednesday, for warrants against Colonel Nelson and Lieutenant Brand for the wilful murder of Mr. G. W. Gordon. The circumstances of the case are well known to the public in connection with the suppression of the insurrection in Jamaica. The hearing of the application was adjourned upon a technical point, as to the residence of the defendants within the jurisdiction. On the case being again brought up, on Thursday, the warrants sought were granted.

## POLICE.

**THE LATE BREAD RIOTS.**—An application was made to Mr. Trill, at Greenwich Police Court, for compensation respecting damage sustained by tradesmen in Deptford and Greenwich, arising out of the late bread riots. The applicant's shop-windows had been broken and the stock of bread on the premises carried away by a tumultuous mob. The loss was estimated at between £5 and £6.

Mr. Trill said it was important that it should be publicly known what the law really was in such cases. In the event of riotous proceedings taking place, and persons sustaining damage therefrom, it was necessary that all claims in respect of such damage should be lodged with the high constable of the hundred within a period of seven days; and, where the damage claimed did not exceed £30, the justices could order payment of any sum to which applicants might be considered fairly entitled; and where the damage exceeded £30 (the same notice being given to the high constable), then the sum to be recovered would be by notice of action at law. He was afraid, therefore, he could render no assistance in the present instance, no claim having been made until ten days after the damage had been committed, and the only course open to persons who had sustained injury through the riots would be to make known their losses to local committees distributing funds raised for relief of distress, and ascertain if anything could thus be afforded them.

**THE RULING PASSION STRONG IN YOUTH.**—Robert Lott, a very nice-looking lad, twelve years of age, was placed at the bar before Mr. Woolrych, at Southwark, charged with striking Jane Bourne, also twelve years of age, on the head with a hammer, and threatening to murder her.

It appeared that the prisoner and prosecutrix attended a school in Snowsfields, Bermondsey, and, living near each other, they used to play together. Latterly, however, the girl took a liking to another boy, which caused some jealousy between them, and the prisoner was heard to say "that one of these days he would do for her." Accordingly, one day after school hours, he secreted a hammer in a corner of the yard, and as the girl was leaving school he attacked her, and wounded her in such a manner that

she was conveyed, in a state of insensibility, to Gray's Hospital, and after that the prisoner was apprehended, and remanded from time to time for the attendance of the prosecutrix, who now appeared, the wound being nearly healed up. In answer to the charge, the prisoner said that he used to play with the complainant, but latterly another boy had come between them, and she told him unless he gave him a hiding she would have nothing more to do with him. He told her that the other boy was too big, when she struck him, and then he knocked her down. He never used a hammer, and never said he would have her life. Mr. Woolrych committed him for trial for unlawfully wounding the prosecutrix.

## MURDER OF AN UNCLE BY A NEPHEW.

A SHOCKING outrage has been committed at Tibberton, near Worcester, and has resulted in the death of a man at the hands of his nephew. On Tuesday two men (George Colley and Thomas Colley, father and son), farm labourers, were taken before the Worcester magistrates, at the Shire-hall, to answer a charge of "having, on the 2nd of February, at Tibberton, feloniously, and with malice forethought, killed and slain William Colley." The prisoners were not defended.

Eliza Colley, the widow of deceased, said the elder prisoner (George Colley) was her husband's brother, and Thomas Colley was nephew to her husband. The prisoners lived together at Tibberton, and her husband and herself lived in another cottage under the same roof. The eldest prisoner and the deceased were often in drink. The younger prisoner, however, was not accustomed to drink, and was always on good terms with his uncle. On Saturday last, the 2nd inst., the deceased left home about six a.m., in his usual good health. Deceased worked for Mr. Aston, a brickmaker, of Oddingley, near Tibberton, and his nephew (Thomas Colley) worked with him at the same place. The elder prisoner worked for Squire Berkeley. Deceased and the younger prisoner left the house together to go to work, George Colley leaving at another time—he could not say when. Witness did not see anything of them till Saturday night, when, some time after ten o'clock, she heard them coming up the road towards the house—her husband and the younger prisoner. They were quarrelling, and they were both in drink. The deceased came into the house, but the prisoner Thomas Colley remained outside. Shortly afterwards deceased went out, but witness persuaded him to return, and Thomas Colley then went into his father's house. Witness soon after heard the elder prisoner come home. He began to "chastise" his son, and witness thought they were going to fight. Thomas Colley said he had been falling out with his uncle. They then went to the door of witness's house, which was opened to them by deceased. Thomas had his coat off. High words passed between them all; they were all quarrelling. Deceased took up a "dolly" and went into the garden, George on his arm. Both were drunk. George then wrenched the "dolly" out of deceased hand, and flung it away into the garden. They then both set to with their fists, and fell down two or three times. Witness could not say whether the younger prisoner was in the fight at that time. The younger prisoner then picked up the "dolly," and struck deceased with it; but she did not think the blow hurt him at the time, though prisoner seemed "to hit his uncle with a vengeance." When witness went to her husband she lifted up his head and said, "Oh, dear; I'm afraid he's dead." Both prisoners then went into their own house, and did not come out again. Her husband was carried into the house, and found to be alive. He got to bed, with assistance; but only spoke once between that and the time of his death, which took place on Monday morning at eight o'clock.

Thomas Dyson, a labourer, of Hindlip, living about eighty yards from the deceased's cottage, said he was at work with the elder prisoner on Saturday, and left him in a public-house. He did not see Colley again till the row, when, hearing "Murder!" cried, he went to the spot. He saw deceased strike the elder prisoner with the "dolly;" and as the latter hit William, the former ran after him and hit him; and, as he fell backwards in the garden, the "dolly" fell out of his hands, and Thomas Colley went up, and, taking hold of the "dolly" with both hands, twice struck deceased on the head when he was on the ground. Deceased was then taken to his house. All three men were a good deal in drink, and only just able to stand.

Police-constable Workman apprehended the elder prisoner on Sunday morning, and charged him with assaulting and wounding his brother. Prisoner said, "It is a very bad job; but it's what I always said it would come to." Witness apprehended the younger prisoner on the same day, at Dr. Woodward's surgery, Worcester, and he took the "dolly" from William Colley's house.

Dr. Woodward, practising in Worcester, said he was sent for on Sunday to attend deceased, whom he found in bed in a dying state. There were two slight scars on his forehead, one on two on his face, and one on his left hand. Flowing from the mouth of deceased was frothy mucus, tinged with blood. The body was warm. That day (Tuesday) witness made a post-mortem examination of the body and found that the integument over the left side of the head was bruised. There was an extensive fracture of the skull over the left temple, in a circular form. A portion of the left temple was depressed, and there was a large clot of blood between the skull and the membrane covering the brain. The cause of death was evidently the effect of a blow.

That being the whole of the evidence, the chairman (the Rev. J. Pearson), addressing the elder prisoner, said they had considered the painful case with every care, and they did not consider that he was legally guilty of any crime. But as regarded the younger prisoner the case was far different, and the Bench had a very painful duty to perform. Although there had been some previous quarrel, no blows had passed between deceased and prisoner, who, however, had, with that dreadful instrument, the "dolly," which had been produced, struck his uncle two blows which had caused his death. Consequently, the only crime they could commit him to take his trial for, at the next Assizes, was that of wilful murder.

George Colley was then discharged, and Thomas Colley was removed in custody.

**EMIGRATION STATISTICS.**—The official return of emigration from the Mersey for the past month shows that there has been a considerable falling off during the past month as compared with January, 1896. Of ships under the Act, nineteen have sailed to the United States, with 2515 steerage and 278 cabin passengers; and one ship to Victoria, with 79 steerage passengers; making a total of 2594 steerage and 278 cabin passengers in ships under the Act. Of the steerage passengers to the United States 1269 were English, 39 Scotch, 633 Irish, and 574 foreigners. Of the passengers to Victoria 5 were English, 2 Scotch, 66 Irish, and 6 foreigners. Of short ships eleven sailed with 413 passengers to the United States, two to Victoria, with 44 passengers, one to the West Indies, with 10 passengers, five to South America, with 37 passengers, and two to Africa, with 19 passengers. The total emigration was thus 3395, against 4805 in the corresponding month of last year, being a decrease of 1410. There are signs of a very large emigration this month.

**AN AUSTRALIAN COURTESHIP.**—On Saturday, Oct. 27, a buxom damsel of some twenty-three summers was a passenger to Maldon, her maternal home, by one of the Maldon coaches; and a stalwart miner, hailing from Cornwall, ("near England"), took a seat by her side. They were total strangers to each other, the man being from Bendigo, on the look-out for his brother, and never having been in Maldon before. However, on the journey they enjoyed a pleasant chat, and it is to be presumed, became mutually enamoured of each other. At all events, it is a fact that on reaching Maldon a whispered conversation took place, and the damsel, instead of going home, took the arm of the swain, and proceeded at once to the residence of a minister, who, upon satisfying himself that both were sane and of mature age, agreed to tie them up. When called upon for their names for the "marriage lines" the question had to be mutually asked and replied

to. The lady then went for the ring, while her lover of an hour gave the necessary information. The ring was got; and in something less than four hours after meeting for the first time the two were "no longer twain, but of one flesh." The happy pair then departed for Bendigo.—*Australian Paper.*

**ADULTERATION OF PRESERVES.**—The principal of the Inland Revenue Laboratory reports:—"During the last two or three years large and increasing importations have been made from the Continent of an article termed glucose, which is a substance prepared from starch, and liable, according to its saccharine value, to a duty equivalent to that imposed upon cane sugar. I am given to understand that this material, which is comparatively of little value, is extensively used to supersede sugar in the manufacture of confections, and that it also enters largely into the compositions of jams, marmalades, and fruit jellies manufactured for sale, thus affording an illustration of the manner in which the most unlikely articles may be sophisticated."

**A RUNAWAY TRAIN.**—The phenomenon of a runaway train occurred on the South-Eastern Railway, between Redhill and Guildford, on Friday. Through some accident or neglect, a detached portion of a train, composed of two horse-boxes and a first-class carriage, full of passengers, rolled away from Chilworth station towards Shalford. The telegraph was set to work, steps taken to avoid a collision, and measures adopted for stopping the runaway. By the time the train had passed over a couple of miles of rail it came to a spot where a quantity of clay and gravel had been strewn over the line for its reception, and here its progress was effectually arrested.

**POPULATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.**—The resident population of the United Kingdom in the middle of the year 1886 is estimated by the Registrar-General at about 29,365,404. 1,013,070 births and 665,859 deaths were registered in the year 1886; but it is considered necessary to add one third to the births and one fourth to the deaths registered in Ireland to compensate for defective registration, and this brings the births up to 1,661,819 and the deaths to 689,273. This leaves a natural increase of 1020 daily, which is reduced to 459 by deducting the recorded number of emigrants—viz., 204,822, or 561 daily. There is no record of additions to the population of the United Kingdom by immigration. The birth-rate of the year in the United Kingdom was 35·47 per 1000, and the death-rate 23·03.

**COMPULSORY REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS.**—Owing to a defect in the English Registration Act, which does not make the registration of births compulsory, the parents or guardians of children are not bound under a penalty to give the registrar notice of any birth, and in consequence a certain number of births are not registered. On account of the interference of emigration and immigration, it is difficult to determine accurately the number that escape registration. In the ten years 1861-70, it is estimated that the annual average number of unregistered births in England and Wales was between 29,000 and 36,000, but during the last of these ten years registration approached nearer than it did in the first the actual number of births. The registration of births has no doubt undergone rapid improvement as the people have found out its utility to their children; but it has been suggested that "a clause inflicting a penalty on parents and occupiers for the neglect of registration would bring in a certain number of births which escape, although the public generally appreciate its importance, and the registrars have a pecuniary interest in recording every birth, as their fees have a direct relation to the numbers which they record." No doubt, many of the births that escape registration are those of illegitimate children, and of infants that live but a short time and are passed off as stillborn. By enforcing, under a penalty, the registration of births in England, the crime of infanticide would perhaps receive a check. The increase in the birth-rate from 3·029 per cent of population, or one birth to every thirty-three persons, in 1838, to 3·551 per cent, or one birth to every twenty-eight persons, in 1866, is in some degree due to the progress of registration, and it is a fact worthy of note that the birth-rate of Scotland is often higher than that of England—partly the result, perhaps, of the operation of a clause in the Scottish Act, by which it is rendered compulsory to register both legitimate and illegitimate births within twenty-one days after birth, under a penalty not exceeding 20s., the penalty not being exacted in cases where it is proved that the neglect to register did not arise from wilful failure. The birth-rate per cent of population in Scotland in each of the four years 1858-61 was 3·455, 3·514, 3·464, and 3·484; and in 1864 it was 3·605 and 3·607 per cent; the birth-rate in England in each of the four years 1858-61 being 3·366, 3·504, 3·437, and 3·461 per cent; and in each of the four years 1864-5, 3·564 and 3·563 per cent; the Scottish rate in each of the above years being in excess of the English. The birth-rate of France is well known to be lower than that of England. According to the latest official returns, the number of births in 1864 to every 1000 population was, in France, 2·621; in Austria, where the birth-rate is invariably higher than that of England, 4·043; in Italy, 3·793; and in Spain, 3·812.

## MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

We have no change of importance to notice in the value of Home Securities when compared with last week. The transactions generally, however, have been somewhat restricted. Consols have been done at 90½; Ditto, for Time, 90½; Reduced and New Three per Cent, 89½; Exchequer Bills, 10s. to 10s. prem. Bank stock has been 49 to 50.

Indian Stocks, &c., have moved off slowly. India Stock, 214 to 216; Ditto, Five per Cent, 107 to 11; Rupee Paper, 10½ to 11; and 10s. to 10½; India Bonds, 25s. to 30s. prem.

The demand for accommodation has been very moderate. In the open market the best short bills have been discounted at 3 per cent; whilst in the Stock Exchange loans are offered for short periods at 1½ to 2 per cent.

On Thursday the Directors of the Bank of England reduced their minimum rate of discount to 3 per cent.

The imports of bullion have been very moderate, but the demand for gold for export to France has fallen off. Bar silver has changed hands at 90½s. per ounce.

There has been little business done in the disposal of bills on the various precedents. The bidings were tolerably active.

The market for Foreign Securities has been rather quiet. Chilean scrip is quoted at ½ prem. In other descriptions very little change has taken place—Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cent have realised 104½; Ditto, Five per Cent, 106½; 7½ Egyptian Seven per Cent, 184, 83½; Ditto, Debentures, 90½; Greek Coupons, 4½; Mexican Five per Cent, 17½; Moorish Five per Cent, 93½; Peruvian Five per Cent, 186½; Portuguese Three per Cent, 42½; Russian Five per Cent, 182½, 89; Ditto, 1868, 47½; Ditto, 1884, 89; Ditto, 1885, 87½; Spanish Three per Cent, 34½; Ditto, Passive, 32½; Turkish Five per Cent, 1854, 77½; Ditto, 1862, 54½; Ditto, 1867, 46½; Ditto Five per Cent, 1864, 54½; Ditto, 1866, 31½; and Italian Five per Cent, 1861, 54½.

United States 5-30 Bonds are steady, at 72½; Erie Railway Shares have moved 30½; Illinois Central, 30½; and Atlantic and Great Western Consolidated Mortgage Bonds, 31½.

For Joint-stock Bank Shares there has been but little demand. Albion have realised 8½; Alliance, 17½ ex div.; Australasian, 87; Bank of Egypt, 31½; City, 14 ex div.; Consolidated, 45 ex div.; East London, 3 ex div.; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 14½; Imperial Ottoman, 9½; Land Mortgage of India, 3½; London of Mexico and South American, 12; London Chartered of Australia, 22½; London and County, 67½; London and Westminster, 95 ex div.; Oriental, 44½; Union of Australia, 47½; and Union of London, 45½.

Colonial Government Securities have been in fair demand: Caledonia Six per Cent have realised 99½; Ditto Five per Cent, 94½; New South Wales Five per Cent, 1867 to 1875, 94½; New Zealand Six per Cent, 101½; Ditto Five per Cent, 84½; Queensland Six per Cent, 91½; and Victoria Six per Cent, 106½.

Consolidated Mortgage Bonds, 31½; Ditto of Mauritius, 83½; 83½; 11½; Fore-street Warehouse, 12½ ex div.; General Credit, 54½; Home and Colonial Assurance, 14½; Hudson's Bay, 164½; Italian Irrigation, Canal Cavour, 65½; London Financial, 74½; London General Omnibus, 3½; Mutual Freehold Land, 9½; National Discount, 13½ ex div.; Ditto, New, 11½; New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency, 24½; New Zealand Trust and Loan, 45½ ex div.; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 67½; Rio de Janeiro City Improvements, 19½; Royal Mail Steam, 107½; Scottish Australian Investment, 107½; Thames and Mersey Marine Insurance, 54½; Lambeth Gas, 104½; Great Central Gas, 11½ ex div.; London, 34½; Phoenix, 32½; Western, 13½; Atlas Insurance, 9½; Indemnity Marine, 112½ ex div.; London, 66.

The Railway Share Market is flatter, and prices have given way. The dividend of the London and South-Western is 4½; Midland, 6½; and of the Great Northern 5 per cent per annum.

## METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

**CORN EXCHANGE.**—The few samples of English wheat on offer this week have met a heavy inquiry, at a decline in the quotations of from 2s. to 3s. per quarter. In foreign wheats, next to nothing has been passing, and prices are very quiet. The barley trade has quiet heavy, at a decline in prices of 1s. per quarter. The sale for malt has been limited, at barely late rates. We have no change to notice in the

value of oats or peas; but beans have given way 2s. per quarter. The flour trade has continued heavy, at barely previous cur-rencies.

**ENGLISH.**—Wheat, 54s. to 70s.; barley, 30s. to 52s.; malt, 56s. to 72s.; oats, 21s. to 31s.; rye, 32s. to 38s.; beans, 32s. to 44s.; peas, 36s. to 41s. per quarter; flour, 43s. to 60s. per 840 lb.

**CATTLE.**—Beasts have sold slowly, on lower terms. Other kinds of stock have produced rather more money.—Beef, from 3s. 6d. to 5s. 2d.; mutton, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; veal, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d. to slink the offal.

**NEWCASTLE AND LEADENHALL.**—The trade is steady, at about quotations.—Beef, from 3s. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 5s.; veal, 4s. to 5s. 4d.; pork, 3s. to 4s. 4d. per 8 lb. by the carcass.

**TEA.**—The public sales have gone rather cheaper for some kinds of tea. Privately, the demand is steady.

**SEGAL.**—There is no change to notice in the value of either raw or refined sugars. The trade, however, is very quiet. Stock, 76,150 tons, against 87,335 tons at this time last year.

**COFFEE.**—A good business has been passing in most qualities, at fair prices. Good, 11,572 tons, against 13,597 tons in 1896.

**RICE.**—The demand is heavy, at barely late rates.

**Stock.** 26,508 tons, against 32,561 tons in 1896.

**PROVISIONS.**—The transactions in all kinds of butter are very moderate, at about previous quotations. Bacon is quiet, at 58s. to 62s. per cwt. Fat, Waterford assable, Hams, lard, and other provisions are dull and heavy, at barely late rates.

**TALLOW.**—The market is steady. F.Y.C., on spot, is selling at 44s. 3d. per cwt. Stock, 38,424 casks, against 43,526 casks last year.

**OLDS.**—Lined oil moves off slowly, at 23s. per cwt. on the spot. Rape is heavy, at 47½ to 48½; olive, 45s. to 47s. and five palm, 44s. American turpentine, 38s. 6d. and French, 36s. 6d. per cwt.

**SPIRITS.**—The market generally may be considered firm, at last week's quotations.

**HAY AND STRAW.**—Meadow hay, 42 15s. to 44 5s.; clover, 42 to 43 10s. and straw, 41 15s. to 43 5s. per load.

**COALS.**—Newcastle, 16s. to 17s. 3d.; Sunderland, 15s. 9d. to 16s.; other kinds, 17s. to 19s. per ton.

**HOPS.**—The demand is very inactive; yet prices are well supported. The quotations range from 43 10s. to 41 11s. per cwt.

**WOOL.**—All kinds move off slowly, at about stationary prices.

**POTATOES.**—The supplies are good, and the demand is heavy, at from 100s. to 150s. per ton.

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, FEB. 1.

**BANKRUPT.**—G. OSBORN, farmer, A. MANN, Moorgate-street, E. BOULTON, Greenwich, J. MURTON, Mile-end-road, G. FREE, South Hackney, commission agent, J. F. BARNHAM, City, stationer, W. KIFF, Caledonian-road, F. WALLIS, Baywater, clerk, W. J. RUMMALL, Brentwood, coachmaker, J. E. M. P. NORRIS, Brighton, dressmaker, C. MARTIN, Adelphi, engineer, G. TIERNEY, Brighton, builder, M. HOBBS, Hampstead, lodging-house, keeper, J. G. COSGROVE, Mile-end, A. J. CHAPPELL, Walworth, compositor, M. ROSE, Hackney, A. WICKENS, Camden Town, J. ROYCE, Hackney, house-decorator, W. H. SWANLAND, Plumstead, waterman, G. JESSE, Dover, engineer, J. COCKBELL, Upper Thames, metal-dealer, G. KELLER, Whitechapel, licensed victualler, W. LANSLEY, Esher, meat salesman, G. BOOKER, Regent's Park, fishmonger, G. A. LEVETT, Walworth, cheesemonger, J. C. FARMER, Stafford, brewer, K. BUTTERFIELD, Leam, mining surveyor, W. H. HUGHES, Finsbury, photographer, printer, J. DOWNING, Turf-church, farmer, W. F. PRATT, Wootton Bassett, attorney-at-law, T. MORGAN, Neath Harbour, licensed victualler, T. MADDOCKS, Newport, Monmouthshire, beer merchant, C. PAYNE, Langport, photographic artist, J. and E. LORD, Southsea, grocer, G. H. PHILLIPS, Brighton, printer, J. S. HUBBARD, Ladbroke, cravanner, BILLINGTON, Leeds, solicitor, T. ELLISON, Barnsley, boot manufacturer, J. HARE, Leeds, clothier, W. KERSHAW, Bristol, manufacturer, A. ROBERTS, Bradford, plumber, H. E. KILN, Blackburn, provision-dealer, A. M. BROWN, Cheltenham, upholsterer, T. H. BAILEY, Penrith, chemist, J. WILLIAMS, Birmingham, butcher, J. COOKING, Birmingham, potato salesman, J. SMITH, Handsworth, cooper, D. DAVIES, Birmingham, retail brewer, J. CLAY, Aston, farmer, J. JONES, Llanelli, dealer, J. A. MORTIMER, Manchester, tailor, W. H. DREW, Manchester, milliner, B. H. BAKER, M. BAILEY, Sheffield, edge-tool forger, J. THORPE, Sheffield, beerhouse-keeper, J. FAYNE, Sheffield, tobacconist, G. LEVETON, Nottingham, J. COOKSON, Nottingham, J. COTTON, Hastings, blacksmith, R. AUSTON, Brighton, grocer, W. H. K. & S. FORSTER, Aston, A. T. ASHORTH, Brighton, dealer in horses, J. HOLSWORTH, Wells-next-the-Sea, W. A. APPELBY, Bishop Auckland, miner, G. W. UNNER, Bromsgrove, ironmonger, J. BECK, Moor-row, Cumberland, F. GIBBONS, Chipping Wycombe, spirit merchant, W. GIFFITHS, Tipton, scrap-iron dealer, W. G. GLENN, Oldham, photographer, J. B. BAKER, Bradford, tailor, J. W. SMITH, Norwich, baker, C. J. SEAMAN, Norwich, broker, W. H. CARTER, Norwich, publican, J. PERRY, Waveney, baker, G. MARSHALL, Darlington, smith, E. ALLEN, Redcliffe, grocer, E. SPILLBURY, Southampton, greengrocer, F. B. BAKER, Southampton, baker, J. B. BAKER, Southampton, shipwright, S. CRABTREE, Burnley, innkeeper, S. SHAW, Llanelli, boot and shoe maker, J. LAFFERTY, Chesterfield, dealer in spirits, W. DIXON, Staveley, draper, S. TUNG, Bournemouth, under-the-bean, general dealer, I. MAUDSLER, Dudley, vestry clerk.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—R. SUMMERS, Hamilton, builder, E. SCHAEFER and CO., Edinburgh, milliners, J. and E. WHITE, Airdrie, drapers, J. WILCOCKS, Brechin, tailor.

TUESDAY, FEB. 2.

**BANKRUPTcies ANNULLED.**—E. WILKELMS, St. Luke's, H. Galt, West Ham, J. W. APPLETON, Bristol, J. proprietor, B. KAUFMAN, J. W. G. FRENCH, Poplar, baker, J. HOOLE, Woolwich, beerhouse-keeper, B. BATLEY, Regent's Park, timber valuer, W. G. CALLEDEN, City, commission merchant, W. H. ROYCE, Old Broad-street, J. VICKING, Brighton, china warehouseman, E. F. ARGENT, Brighton, builder, W. A. TWEDDLE, Cornhill, insurance broker, J. BOWD, Clerkenwell, eating-house keeper, T. W. BRADLEY, Boxton, agent, J. CHAPMAN, Raling, A. T. LEHRER, Shanghai, cab proprietor, R. CRABTREE, Burnley, innkeeper, S. SHAW, Llanelli, boot and shoe maker, J. LAFFERTY, Chesterfield, dealer in spirits, W. DIXON, Staveley, draper, S. TUNG, Bournemouth, under-the-bean, general dealer, I. MAUDSLER, Dudley, vestry clerk.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—D. MCKENZIE, Glasgow, spirit merchant, J. KERR, Edinburgh, grocer, M. McLEAN, Glasgow, coach proprietor.

**W. EAK DIGESTION.**—Universal Remedy.

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**RHEUMATISM, GOUT, LUMBAGO.**

Instant and Certain Relief. The only Thoroughly Reliable INFALLIBLE Remedy. Also for Sciatica, Weak Limbs, Sprains, Bruises, Chlains, Chaps, &c. Of all Medicine Vendors, in bottles, 1s. 14d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d.—John Lewis, 7, Southampton-row, London, W.C.

**EATING'S COUGH LOZENGES, which**

are daily recommended by the Faculty, Testimonials from the most eminent of whom may be seen. 80s. per box, 1s. 14d.; and tins, 2s. 9d.—T. Keating, 78, St. Paul's-churchyard, London.

**CORNS AND BUNIONS.**—A Gentleman,

many years tormented with Corns, will be happy to afford others the information by which he obtained their complete removal in a very short period, without pain or any inconvenience. Forward address on a stamped envelope, to F. KINGSTON, Esq., Chesham, Surrey.

**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS**

are curative agents of no mean pretensions; they have wrought cures of Ulcers, Bad Legs, Dropsical Swellings, Scrofulous Sores, Rheumatic Glands, and Cancerous Growths after professional skill had failed. The ease accompanying the progress towards health is remarkable.

**COLLEY'S KALLIPLOKAMON.**—This

preparation, containing Cantharides, is the most valuable ever offered to the public for nourishing and increasing the growth of the Hair.—Price 3s. 9d. and 3s. 6d.—Colley, 23, Bishopsgate-st., E.C.



THOMAS FOX, 1, Catherine-street, Strand, aforesaid. — SATURDAY.  
FEBRUARY 9, 1867.